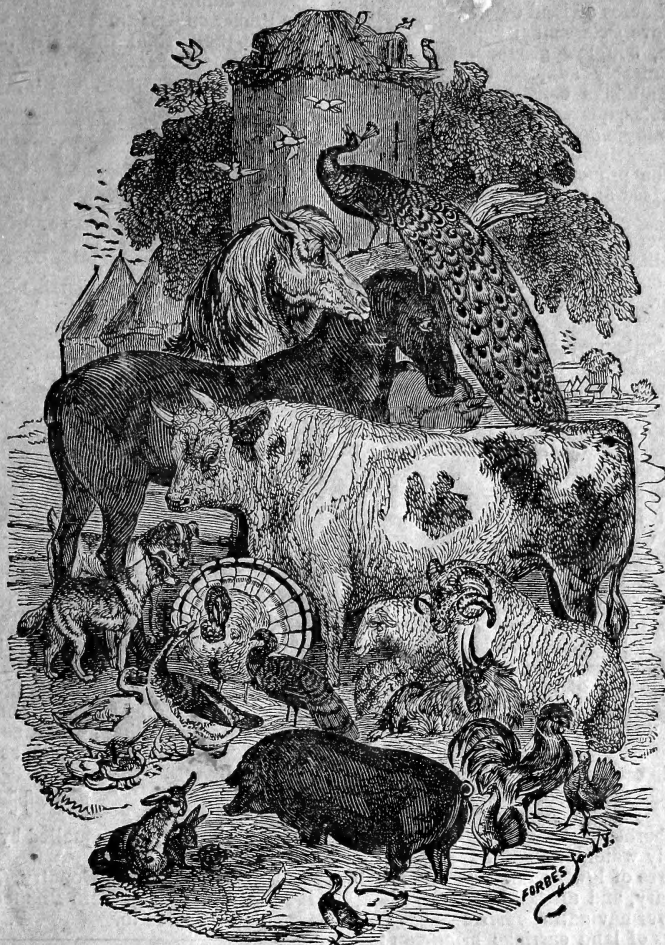


H M Nelson

THE
SOUTHERN PLANTER;

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, and the Household Arts.

EDITED BY C. T. ROTT'S.



TERMS:—ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER ANNUM,
To be discharged by *One Dollar*, if paid within 60 days. Six Copies for Five Dollars. A subscription must commence with either the January or July Number.
In every case the Postage must be paid.

↵ **OFFICE ON MAIN STREET, OPPOSITE THE BANKS.** ↵

POSTAGE.—This Publication, by the new law, is subject only to newspaper postage. Within 30 miles of Richmond it goes free. Within the limits of the State of Virginia, or within the distance of 100 miles out of it, each No. pays one cent—over that distance, one and a half cents.

RICHMOND:

PRINTED FOR THE PROPRIETOR BY P. D. BERNARD

1845.

July

LAND FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber is authorized to sell one of the best tracts of Land in North Carolina. It contains 1500 acres, lying on Tar river and immediately upon the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road. The situation is perfectly healthy and the property every way desirable. The dwelling house is an excellent one; besides which, there are on the premises an excellent grist mill, and every kind of out house. The greater part of it is first rate tobacco land, and a great bargain can be had in it. This estate lies in Granville County, and is the property of Mr. Josiah Crudup.

Eleven hundred acres of land on the Appomattox, eighteen miles above Petersburg; 500 acres in wood of virgin growth, 300 low grounds, principally a stiff red soil, admirably adapted to wheat, clover and tobacco. Buildings consist of two dwelling houses, barns, stables, quarters, &c.; eight never-failing springs, affording a good site for a mill, with 16 feet fall—fencing excellent.

This tract is the property of Mr. S. W. Cousins, and can be purchased at any time *shortly* for \$3500, a *great bargain*.

One thousand acres of land on James River, about 6 miles from Williamsburg—360 acres are cleared and marled—the balance is in wood, and very convenient to the river. The buildings are chiefly new and commodious.

A beautiful suburban residence near the City of Richmond, consisting of a large three story brick house, with 10 fine rooms, a handsome greenhouse, brick kitchen, stables, carriage house, &c. with an acre of highly improved ground. This property lies just without the corporation line, and enjoys all the advantages of the City without being subjected to any of its burdens. A great bargain can be had in it.

Sixty acres of highly improved Land upon the Brook Turnpike, within 2 miles of the City. Buildings new and good. A capital establishment for a dairy farm.

A very valuable farm, beautifully situated on the Rapid Ann River, in the County of Culpeper. It contains 643 acres, about 300 cleared and highly improved. The buildings are good, and the soil proverbially excellent. This is one of the most delightful and healthy regions in Virginia. The society in this neighborhood is unsurpassed by any in the Union. Price \$20 per acre.

A great bargain can be bought in 900 acres of land in Powhatan, upon the Appomattox river, 33 miles from Richmond. This property is situated in one of the finest neighborhoods in Virginia, is perfectly healthy, and finely watered. There are 400 acres in woods and 50 acres of low grounds, a good dwelling with a new granary, and all necessary outhouses.—Fifty miles of river navigation carries you to Petersburg, or ten miles of land carriage bring you to the James River Canal. The proprietor of this estate, who is now living in the City of Richmond, offers to sell it at a most reduced rate.

A Market Garden of ten acres, within a mile of the City of Richmond. This place is ornamented with a beautiful cottage, and is in the very highest state of cultivation; well stocked with grape vines and fruit trees, and possessed of every convenience that could make such a place profitable or comfortable. From the sale of vegetables in the Richmond market, the proprietor has derived an income of \$1,500 per annum.

Ten miles from the City of Richmond, 300 acres of Land, highly improved, with a large and excellent brick dwelling and all convenient out houses, in a beautiful and healthy situation, can be bought for \$5,000.

Five hundred acres in Powhatan, upon James River, 22 miles from Richmond, thirteen of it low grounds. Attached to this tract is Jude's Ferry,

which is yielding, even now, a clear income of \$200 per annum. The upland rests upon a good clay foundation and is easily improved, for which its situation affords the greatest facilities. The dwelling and out buildings are good and convenient, and the fencing is excellent. The situation is perfectly healthy. It can be bought for nine dollars an acre.

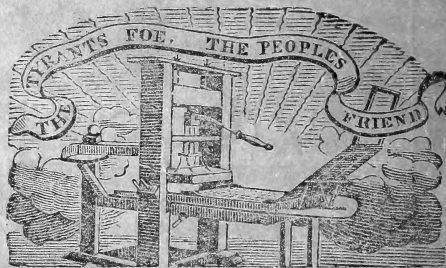
In New Kent, on the Chickahominy River, 14 miles from Richmond, there lies a tract of valuable Land which the owner, who is about to embark in mercantile business in Richmond, is very anxious to sell.—The whole tract consists of 1096 acres, of which 400 acres is of the best quality of Chickahominy low grounds, admirably adapted to the growth of grass. The timber on this tract is very valuable: one half of it is in the original heavy growth, and there is upon the premises an excellent site for a saw mill. It can be purchased, on credit, for \$10,000.

C. T. BOTTS.

PRINTING OFFICE,

Museum Building, (up stairs,)

Corner of 12th and Franklin Streets,
RICHMOND, VA.



The Subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public that he is prepared to execute every description of

Book and Job Printing,

usually done in this city. His Stock of Materials is large—and, with the assistance of the best workmen, he flatters himself that he will, as heretofore, be enabled to give satisfaction, both as regards the price and quality of his work.

FANCY PRINTING

executed in a style unequalled by any establishment in Richmond.

Orders from the Country, forwarded either to the Editor of the Southern Planter, or myself, will be promptly attended to. P. D. BERNARD.

LAND IN NELSON.

THE subscriber is authorised to sell a very valuable tract of land in Nelson County, belonging to Dr. Chas. Cocke. It contains 1914 acres, is situated five miles below the Court House, and eight miles above New Market, on the James River Canal. This is a splendid tobacco estate, well wooded, well watered, and well enclosed. The situation is as healthy as any in the world. It is susceptible of division into three or four farms, and would form a capital subject of investment for a lot of northern emigrants. The whole farm can be purchased for \$20,000.

Apply to Dr. Cocke, Garland's Store, Albemarle, or to the subscriber. C. T. BOTTS.

BROWN, TAYLOR & TUCKER, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, RICHMOND, VA.

LUDWELL H. BROWN, EDWIN M. TAYLOR, E. TUCKER.
Office on the east side of the Basin.

THE SOUTHERN PLANTER,

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, and the Household Arts.

Agriculture is the nursing mother of the Arts.
Xenophon.

Tillage and Pasturage are the two breasts of the State.—*Sully.*

C. T. BOTTS, Editor.

VOL. V.

RICHMOND, JULY, 1845.

No. 7.

SUBSOIL PLOUGHING.

Amongst the agricultural discoveries of modern times, none perhaps deserves to rank higher than the invention of the subsoil plough. The value of this implement will, it is true, vary much with the nature of the earth to which it is applied, but in most situations we believe it to be one of the cheapest and most efficient means of improving the soil. It is a happy expedient by which all the old opposition to deep ploughing is at once removed. By this means the earth can be stirred and mellowed to a great depth, whilst the shallow mould upon the surface is kept where it is most desirable to retain it. If any farmer is so *green* as to ask, what is the use of breaking up the soil below, we answer, that it is only pulverized earth that attracts and retains moisture; if a few inches below the surface you have a compact puddled clay, into which the roots of plants can never penetrate, when the exhausting heat of the summer sun has evaporated the moisture, as it will do for several inches, what is to support the plant? Oh! then we have a *drought*, as it is called; but if you will permit the roots to penetrate fifteen or twenty inches into your subsoil, and they will gladly avail themselves of the opportunity, they will then find inexhaustible supplies of moisture in which they may revel, secure from the withering rays of the fiery sun, which seek in vain to penetrate their storehouse; far beyond his reach they laugh the sun to scorn, and whilst they avail themselves of all his genial influences, they rob him of his terrors. As cleanliness has expelled the once dreaded plague from modern Europe, so may the practice of subsoiling forever expel the demon of drought from the fields of the intelligent farmer.

But the prevention of drought is by no means all the benefit to be derived from the practice of subsoil ploughing. Beneath that portion of the earth's surface which has been subjected to cultivation, lies a virgin soil, possessed of different but unexhausted, and frequently, very valuable

mineral properties. It sometimes happens that this soil in its primitive state, is very inimical to vegetation, but when freely operated upon by the atmosphere it undergoes chemical changes that assimilate it to the most productive of the virgin soils that are found upon the surface. To this operation of the atmosphere these slumbering stores of fertilization are exposed by the breaking and loosening effect of the subsoil plough. After the subsoil has been thus regenerated by the admission of the atmosphere into its bosom, it may be turned up with the greatest advantage, and gradually converted from *sub* to surface soil. In this way, not only will valuable mineral ingredients be eventually brought to the surface, where without injury they may be exposed still farther to the ameliorating influence of the atmosphere, but it also not unfrequently happens that into this subsoil has been filtered the salts of much vegetable manure applied to the upper surface.

This is a very pretty theory, says the practical farmer, but what are the facts? The facts are numerous and incontrovertible. Since the statements made by Mr. Smith, of Deanston, to the Agricultural Committee of the English House of Commons in 1836, of the result of his experiments in the use of the subsoil plough, this great improvement has been gradually progressing, and we believe, if not the most brilliant, it is yet destined to be esteemed the most valuable discovery of the nineteenth century.—From time to time, we have recorded the most authentic statements of the wonderful effect of this process, and yet how few comparatively have systematically adopted it. We remember that last year we saw at the farm of Mr. Joseph Sinton, near this city, one of the finest crops of turnips we ever beheld. Mr. Sinton estimated that it would yield him double as much as he had ever gathered from the same quantity of land before, and this excess he attributed solely to a small subsoil plough that he had used in their cultivation; and a few days since we

heard him declare, that if he could not get another, he would not take fifty dollars for this little implement.

But we believe our readers generally have seen and heard enough of subsoil ploughing to satisfy them of its utility. The greatest difficulty to its more general introduction, is the want of the implement and a detailed description of the proper mode of using it. The subsoil plough most generally approved in this country, consists of a broad, flat, upright standard, fastened to the beam as the mouldboard usually is: to this standard is attached the point and share of a common plough—commencing where the share ends, and running back, a piece of cast iron, about half an inch thick, three inches wide, and fourteen inches long, is bolted, with one of its edges against the perpendicular standard; at the back of this standard which may be considered the heel of the plough, this piece of iron is elevated about four inches forming an inclined plane, which serves to upheave and break out the earth from furrow to furrow. We have seen all the subsoil ploughs in use, and have endeavored to describe the one that seems by common consent to be preferred at the North; but for our part, we confess that we do not see any great advantage that any of them have over a good strong new ground coultter, such as may be made at any blacksmith's shop in the country; especially if to it is attached an elevated wing, to answer the purpose for which the side piece of the subsoil plough is intended. As for the mode in which it is to be used, we make the following extract from an article we find in the Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society for 1844, for a copy of which, by-the-by, we are much indebted to the Secretary of the Society:

"First goes the soil plough, in the usual way, turning over its slice of soil, and just after it comes the subsoiler, working in the bottom of the new made furrow, thoroughly disturbing and displacing but not inverting the hard subsoil, to the depth (if required) of fourteen inches, with No. 1, and eighteen or twenty with larger sizes of the plough. Then comes the soil plough again, on its second round, turning over its slice of soil—covering the work of the subsoiler, (not its furrow, for it makes none) and uncovering a new and unbroken line of subsoil for the second round of the subsoiler. Thus they alternate, and experience satisfies me that two teams (one to each plough) will do as much with respect to quantity, depth of furrow and ease of draft,

and very much more with respect to efficient and profitable tillage, than three similar teams can, with the common plough in the other mode. Thus at least a third of the team work is saved at the outset, besides being altogether more manageable and convenient."

TO CURE A SNAKE BITE.

An exchange paper says that the bark of yellow poplar, bruised, made into a poultice and applied to the wound—at the same time that the wound is bathed with a strong decoction of the same, and the patient given a half pint to drink every half hour, will effect a cure.

Charcoal made into a paste with hog's lard and changed often, is also pronounced sovereign. To which we add indigo, treated in the same manner.—*Prairie Farmer.*

For the Southern Planter.

COCKLE.

Mr. Editor,—In examining the May number of the Planter I noticed Dr. Wrenn's communication on the subject of cockle and cheat. I will (in advance) subscribe to his views and suggestions, relative to the manner of testing, and bringing agricultural implements and machines into notice; but really I think if the Doctor waits for a machine to be invented to effectually separate cockle and cheat from wheat, and uses no effort nor adopts no plan of his own to get rid of it, he will be troubled with it, in proportion to the yield of his wheat crop, the remainder of his life. I would not suggest any thing (inexperienced as I am) in the way of farming, to *Dr. Wrenn*, the worthy proprietor of *Shoat Bay*, but would simply recommend to him a renewal of the "good old way," idle as it may appear to him, of extracting or removing from his wheat field at the proper time all the cockle at least, that may be found there. I pursue this plan in my limited way of raising wheat, and am troubled but little with cockle; as to cheat, I am told it is produced from unmaturing seed wheat, or from well matured wheat, retarded in some way in its growth. It is no more labor for a large force to pull up the cockle from a large crop of wheat, than for a small force to do it from a small crop, and I would say the proper time to remove it is from its first appearance, previous to the time of its ripening and losing the seed. Remove the cockle from your wheat, Doctor; select your seed from the best matured wheat of your whole crop, and wait no longer, nor trouble any body about a machine to separate cockle and cheat from wheat. 'Tis idle even to think about it.

I was much pleased to learn from the same number of the Planter that there is some pros-

pect for an agricultural school in this State.—Do use your influence in its early commencement and progress, in this honorable, indispensable and delightful “science.” I also noticed with *much interest* the article on economy. Connect this branch (for ’tis an indispensable one), with the great channel, that alone can conduct us to the true and proper system of agriculture, and we will, in this respect, no longer be the subjects of criticism to our Northern neighbors, but will soon cause them to wonder how a Southern man can get out of debt without selling “that peculiar kind of property in which a large portion of our funds is vested.”

Respectfully, yours, &c.

BROOMFIELD.

Sussex, May 24, 1845.

OKRA.

We have often wondered that this excellent vegetable was not more generally cultivated in Virginia. We find the following account of it in Mr. Ellsworth's report:

Okra is extensively cultivated in the Southern and some of the middle States, as an article of food, and it is suggested by Mr. J. F. Callan, of Washington, that it is destined ere long to expel the use of imported coffee. He says, “*its ripe seeds burned and used as coffee cannot be distinguished therefrom*, and many persons of the most fastidious taste have not been able to distinguish it from the best Java. It is very easily grown, planted in May, in drills four feet apart, to the depth of an inch, at intervals of eight inches, and cultivated like corn or peas. It sends up a strong stalk, and yields a great abundance of seed.”

The Farmer's Encyclopædia has an article which we give in addition to the above:

“This plant is extensively cultivated in the West Indies, from whence it has been introduced into the United States. The pods are gathered green, and used in soups. They form an important ingredient in the celebrated gumbo soup of New Orleans, and other southern places.—The pods are filled with seeds, and a mucilage of a bland and highly nutritious quality. Hence, the okra is frequently recommended to persons afflicted with dysentery and other bowel complaints, eaten either boiled or made into soup.—When buttered and spiced, they afford a rich dish; and, with vinegar, they make a good pickle. The plant comes to maturity in the middle States, and the pods are abundant in the Philadelphia market. Those who become once accustomed to this wholesome vegetable, contract a great fondness for its peculiar flavor. In Louisiana and other southern States, a dinner is scarcely considered complete without okra cooked

in some way or other; and the poor consider it one of their greatest blessings. The pods are of a proper size when two or three inches long, but may be used as long as they remain tender. If fit for use, they will snap asunder at the ends; but if too old and woody, they must be rejected. One peck of the tender pods are to be cut crosswise into very thin slices, not exceeding one-eighth of an inch in thickness; to this quantity, add about one-third of a peck of tomatoes, previously peeled and cut into pieces. The proportion of tomatoes may be varied to suit the taste. A coarse piece of beef (a shin is generally made use of,) is placed in a pot or digester, with about two and a half gallons of water, and a very small quantity of salt. This is permitted to boil a few minutes, when the scum is taken off, and the okra and tomatoes are thrown in. With these ingredients, in the proportions mentioned, the soup is very fine.—Still, some think it improved by addition of green corn, Lima beans, &c. The most essential thing to be attended to is the boiling, and the excellence of the soup depends almost entirely on this being done faithfully; for, if it be not boiled enough, however well the ingredients may have been selected and proportioned, the soup will be very inferior, and give but little idea of the delightful flavor it possesses when well done. A properly constructed digester is decidedly the best vessel for boiling this or any other soup in; but, where such a utensil is not at hand, an earthen pot should be preferred; but on no account make use of an iron one, as it would turn the whole soup perfectly black, instead of the proper color, viz: green, colored with the rich yellow of tomatoes. The time usually required for boiling okra is about five hours; during which it should be occasionally stirred, and the ingredients mashed.”

ARTIFICIAL MANURES.

Professor Liebig, the eminent chemist, is said to have taken out a patent for a variety of artificial manures, suited to all the principal crops which are grown in this country.

For the Southern Planter.

STOCK, GAPES, &c.

Mr. Editor,—The usual drought and severe frost of this spring has not occasioned as much injury as was anticipated here; forward wheat and oats suffered most, and must be a short crop. Tobacco plants are plenty and some of our planters half done planting now; fruit will be scarce.

I expected to see in the May number of the Planter further notice of Mr. Nolting's sheep. I presume he will give us the amount of wool

actually sheared from them—the quantity of lambs they afforded, and the price at which he would dispose of some of them.*

I am convinced that our farmers could obtain in and around Richmond the different kinds of stock, and better adapted to their wants than they are in the habit of procuring from a greater distance, and at higher prices. The Ayrshire cattle, for instance, could be procured, I have no doubt, around Richmond for much less than is paid for them at the North, and the latter will suit us for any purpose for which cattle are wanted here far better than the Durhams; the latter can hardly be kept alive through the winter with such food and treatment as we give our horses.

I see in the papers various conjectures as to the cause of the gapes in chickens, and the remedies, &c. I never cured one of the gapes by any of the means suggested; and as to the cause, I know it is occasioned on my premises by the chickens eating a slender, tough grass with which the yard abounds: it resembles, and probably is, the seed-tick grass that borders roadsides. At this season nearly all the chickens are affected by the gapes, and few are raised. Those hatched after June are hardly ever affected by the disease; whether this is owing to some change the grass undergoes, or their ceasing to eat it, I am uncertain.

Most respectfully,

WM. A. STAPLES.

Amherst, May 18, 1845.

PRESERVATION OF FOOD.

Whilst, in former times, during long voyages, mariners were confined to salt and smoked meats, which in the long run, always proved injurious to the health, and thousands of human beings have lost their lives for the want of fresh aliments, which were even more essential in sickness, these dangers and discomforts become more and more rare at the present day. This is certainly one of the most important contributions to the practical benefits of mankind ever made by science; and for this we are indebted to Guy Lussac. At Leith, in the neighborhood of Edinburgh, at Aberdeen, at Bordeaux, Marseilles, and in many parts of Germany, establishments of enormous magnitude exist, in which soup, vegetables, animal substances, and viands of every description, are prepared and sent to the greatest distances. The prepared aliments are enclosed in canisters of tinned

* We understand from Mr. Nolting that his four ewes brought him ten lambs, and that the five sheep yielded fifty-one pounds of washed wool. He has no lambs that he would dispose of this season, although he has been frequently tempted by high offers. The largest fleece obtained from any one of his sheep, was twelve and a half pounds.—Ed.

iron plates, the covers are soldered air-tight, and the canisters exposed to the temperature of boiling water. When this degree of heat has penetrated to the centre of the contents, which it requires about three or four hours to accomplish, the aliments have acquired a stability which one may say is eternal. When the canister is opened after the lapse of several years, the contents appear as if they were recently enclosed. The color, taste, and smell of the meat is completely unaltered. This valuable method of preparing food has been adopted by many persons in my neighborhood and other parts of Germany, and has enabled our housewives to adorn their tables with green vegetables in the midst of winter, and with dishes at all times which otherwise could only be obtained at particular seasons. This method of preserving food will become of the greatest importance in provision fortresses, since the loss incurred in selling off old stores, and replacing them by new, especially with respect to meat, ham, &c., is far more considerable than the value of the tin canisters, which, moreover, may be repeatedly employed after being carefully cleansed.—*Liebig's Letter on Chemistry.*

SOMETHING WORTH KNOWING.

The following are very good recipes for lemonade and ginger beer powders; and to persons who abstain from the ordinary fermented and alcoholic beverages, will be found very convenient and acceptable, particularly during the ensuing season:

"Lemonade Powders.—Pound and mix together half a pound of loaf sugar, one ounce of carbonate of soda, and three or four drops of the oil of lemon, divide the mixture into sixteen portions, and dissolve one in a glass of water.

"Ginger Beer Powders.—Take away the oil of lemon from the former recipe, and substitute a few grains of finely powdered ginger, or else a few drops of the essence of ginger."

We have tried the above and can vouch for it—we never tasted a more *physicy* mixture.

MOWING.

In the New York Farmer and Mechanic we find the following excellent directions for the management of the scythe:

1st. The scythe should hang natural and easy, and as I have said before, it must be kept in first rate order.

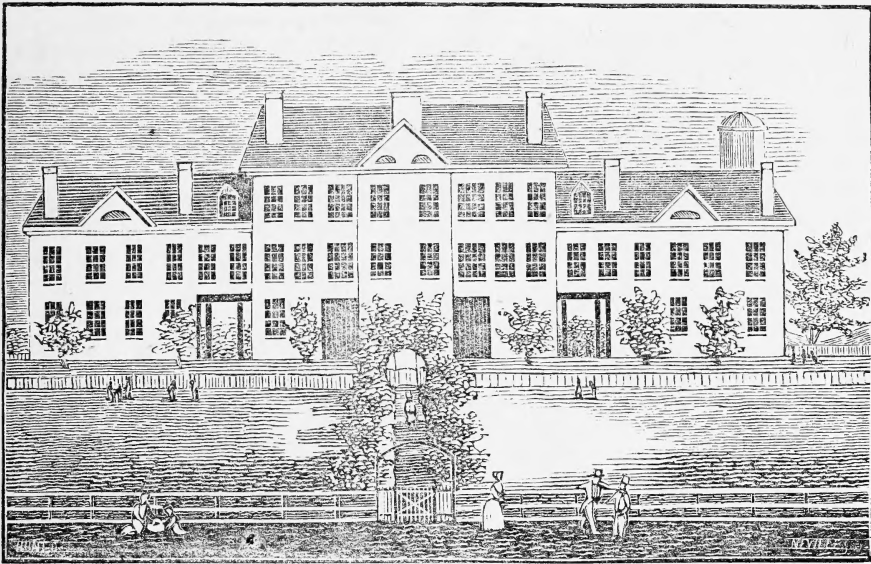
2d. As you approach the standing grass, let the heel of the scythe move to the very point of commencement, and let it stop the instant it has done its work. Thus there is nothing lost by a backward or forward swing. If the grass stands

up so as to admit of moving on, measure the utmost capacity forward of your scythe, take a quick easy gait, moving your right foot well up towards the standing grass, and your body with it, though leaning back, by bending the knees a little forward, so as to bring your whole weight to bear upon the scythe, without twisting the body from right to left, (as many do;) thus giv-

ing ease to each clip, and ability to repeat in an advanced position, without fatigue.

NOTE.—If you swing six inches too far back, and six inches too far in pointing out, it makes twenty-four inches *loss*! Then apply the same strength to a scientific forward motion, and you will find it difficult for ordinary mowers to keep up.

JOHN R. PITKIN.



COLLEGIATE AND AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE,
BUCKINGHAM CO. VIRGINIA.

Richmond, May 20, 1845.

To the Editor of the Southern Planter:

Sir,—I find you have published in your last number of the Southern Planter the loose remarks I made before the Farmers' Club of the American Institute in reference to the organization of a Collegiate and Agricultural Institute in Buckingham county, Virginia. I stated at the time, (but which was not reported in the remarks as published,) that I had made a provisional contract to take the premises known as the Female Collegiate Institute of Buckingham, which it was optional with me to close or not any time previous to the first of June; and if so, that I would hereafter publish my plan for the organization of the Institute, and the course of instruction to be adopted. Although I have finally concluded not to undertake the task of establishing it, I will, nevertheless, give you an outline of what I think such an Institute ought to be, and of the plan and course I intended to adopt, and to carry out the same, as far and as

fast, as my own resources, and the patronage of a generous public would enable me to accomplish it.

Such an Institute ought in the first place to be provided with a select library of books in every department of science and literature, and of all the class books used by the students of the Institute, and with which they should be supplied from the classical library. It should also be supplied with a complete philosophical and chemical apparatus, with a phantasmagoria lantern, and illuminated diagrams, on every subject of their studies as far as practicable, so as to teach all that can be taught by the eye. Also a reading room supplied with the best magazines, periodicals, and political papers of the country, to which the students should have free access, at all times, other than study hours, until the hour of retiring for the night arrived. The person who had charge of the library to take and note regularly meteorological observations.

In the Collegiate Department the same course of studies ought to be adopted which are pur-

sued at our best colleges; so that the students might finish their education at the Institute, or be prepared, upon leaving it, to take an advanced standing at another literary institution. In the course of instruction the theoretical, experimental and practical parts ought to be so blended and the course of studies so adopted, in different classes, as to prepare the students upon leaving the Institute, to enter with the advantage of some useful knowledge upon any of the ordinary pursuits of life, whether agricultural, mechanical, manufacturing, mining, merchandise or instruction; or to enter upon the studies of the learned professions. With this great object in view, the students might be more advantageously employed, in spending less time than is usually devoted in acquiring dead languages, and more in obtaining a knowledge of living languages, the French and German; and particularly the philosophy of our own language, composition, and a general acquaintance with English literature, which at present constitutes a very small part of college studies. Geology, botany and mineralogy are most interesting and useful studies, and the students, ought to be so well versed in them that by merely noticing the natural productions as they appear on the surface, they might be able to know the general character of the soil, and any mineral indications, as well as to classify the several minerals and plants, and their use and application to the arts. Chemistry, of course, would constitute an important branch of study, as applied to agriculture and the arts, and every student before he left the Institute ought to be able to analyze for himself all kinds of substances, especially those more directly applicable to agriculture and the arts; so as to be able to reduce his chemical knowledge to practical usefulness on his farm or manufactory. While pursuing the study of natural philosophy and mathematics, the students ought to have an opportunity to apply the principles of the same practically in surveying, civil engineering, mensuration, mechanics, &c., with which drawing would be necessarily connected, a branch of study too little attended to. And above all, the moral and religious training of youth ought not to be neglected, and in addition to the usual exercises in the chapel daily, and a sermon on the Sabbath, there ought to be a course of Biblical instruction, and there ought to be constantly kept before them their responsibility to a higher Power than any here below. Without a proper religious influence, no literary institution can accomplish, what it ought to strive to accomplish to prepare young men to become useful citizens and good members of society, as well as learned and accomplished gentlemen.

The government of the Institute ought to be conducted on the principles of a well regulated family and social intercourse between gentlemen,

which requires every one to do what is right in all things, and especially to respect the rights and feelings of all. And the principles of right and wrong are so clearly stamped upon every mind, that no one can be at a loss to know what he ought to do and what to leave undone. And if any should err and stray from the right way, they ought to be reminded, with kindness, but with firmness, to show them the necessity of mending their ways—if necessary, they should be admonished with meekness, but with that decision that they may be made to feel that such conduct cannot be tolerated, and if persisted in, their parents will be informed of their delinquencies, and required to remove them from the Institute; for attention to study, good order and good morals must be maintained, at all hazards, and whatever may be the consequences.

With the Agricultural Department ought to be connected sufficient land to constitute a pattern farm. This ought to have a garden well stocked with all kinds of vegetables and fruits, with which the tables should always be well supplied. Also a nursery of all kinds of fruit and ornamental trees; shrubbery and flowers, and a collection of all the medicinal plants of our country, with the nature and uses of which the student should make himself acquainted.—The students should be taught by a scientific and practical horticulturist every thing appertaining to his department, particularly grafting, budding, transplanting, the propagating and multiplying of different plants, shrubs, and the best mode of cultivating the different fruits and vegetable productions, by the application of the proper kind of manures to each. With the garden ought also be connected a greenhouse; the nurseries and greenhouse might be made a source of considerable revenue. In the gardens the student would not only gain much useful knowledge, but it would prove a most agreeable relaxation from the study room.

A field ought also to be appropriated for experiments with all kinds of seeds, old, new and rare—the various modes of cultivating them, the application of different kinds of manures and mineral fertilizers to different grains and vegetables. Here too ought to be tested all the wonderful accounts we read and hear of having been effected, by some particular manner or mode of cultivation, with some new fertilizers or way of applying them, which nine times out of ten we shall find of no practical utility, cost more than they are worth ten times over, or prove perhaps a perfect humbuggery. Every thing that by experience is found of practical utility, and congenial to our climate, ought to be adopted in our field farming.

In the farming operations, experiments ought to be made to show the effects upon the crops produced by different kinds of ploughing the land, as to the depth and frequency of the same

before seeding—the best way of selecting and preparing the seeds before planting or sowing—and preventing certain diseases the crops are subject to. The effects of turning in different kinds of green crops as fertilizers in improving worn-out fields—the effects of different manures upon different crops, whether the products of the farm, or such as lime, ashes, poudrette, guano, and whether applied in the common form and way, or in a liquid state—to be ploughed in or as top dressings. So also with regard to a constant rotation of crops, or naked summer fallowing. It would be desirable also to attempt the introduction of new staple productions, such as the producing of madder and silk, for which we now pay annually some millions to foreign countries, and which amounts must increase as our population and cotton and woollen manufactories increase. There can be no doubt that both these articles can be made very productive and profitable staples in Virginia. There are gentlemen now ready to establish a filature at Richmond for the reeling of silk as soon as encouragement is given, that the planters will furnish cocoons. I have this spring also met with a gentleman who has come from France and another from Italy with a view of establishing manufactories for making silk fabrics; with another gentleman from North Holland, who has long been engaged in raising madder there, and who means to commence the raising of it now in this country, wherever he may find it most favorable and advantageous to himself.

On the farm ought also to be a choice selection of all kinds of domestic animals, and the students ought to be taught what are the characteristic points of a good animal—the most economical and best way of keeping them in good condition for the ordinary uses to which they are applied, or in preparing them for market; how to improve the stock by skilful breeding—the diseases they are subject to, and the best common remedies for the prevention or cure of the same. With this department will be connected the important article of manures; the best means of making and saving the same; the way to increase and multiply it, and the manufacturing of mineral or artificial manures.

There ought also to be connected with the Institute a machine shop for making all kinds of agricultural implements and machines of approved utility, from which the farmers in that region might supply themselves. These ought all to be used on the farm to show the advantage the arts are to agriculture. Here the students would learn much that is useful in the nature and application of mechanics, and in fixing or repairing their machines when out of gear or repair, and in the exercise of their mechanical ingenuity.

Every department of the Institute ought to be carried on in the most economical manner,

and an exact account should be kept of the mode and manner of cultivation—the outlay of labor and money expended on every field and crop, and the product of the same; for if our farming costs more than it comes to, it is a bad business; and some more economical and beneficial change ought to be adopted.

Although it was never designed by me to make the Institute a mere manual labor school, for as such I believe it would fail, as all such schools have failed, especially on a large scale, yet if the above plan could be carried out, it would excite so much interest in the students that as a matter of choice they would take hold with their own hands and do, what must be done by some one, in order to teach them how it should be done; that they might know how to have the same things done themselves properly hereafter. It would indeed be desirable that all should be required to take hold themselves to learn how things ought to be done; but for fear our young gentlemen would not be prepared for this step, it was intended to carry on the operations of the farm principally by a set of young men who desired to qualify themselves as overseers of estates, who were not able to pay for their education except by the labor of their own hands. They, as a matter of necessity, would receive their instruction in a class by themselves. These different classes might create some difficulty; but a prudent and discreet course of management might overcome every difficulty of this kind.

The price I intended to charge to cover all expenses of every kind, such as board, tuition, fuel, washing, mending, and use of classical books, was one hundred dollars per term of five months—from the 15th of May to the 15th of October, and from the 15th of November to the 15th of April.

I have now given you the general outline of the plan for the organization and course of instruction I contemplated for the Institute. The attention which my private affairs require, will necessarily lead me to be absent from home for some time to come, and which I have deemed, therefore, incompatible with taking the charge and responsibility of such an Institute, and, therefore, I have been constrained to abandon the enterprise. I regret it is so, for my heart was in this enterprise, and I fondly hoped there to have spent the remainder of my days in endeavoring to make myself useful to my country and the rising generation. Such an Institute ought not to belong to any private individual—it is an object of great importance to the agricultural interests of the country, which lays at the foundation of all other interests, and, therefore, it is a great public object, in which all classes of society have an interest, and it ought to be a public institution, owned, sustained and nourished by the State Agricultural Board, un-

der the patronage of the State Legislature. It certainly has equal claims to State patronage, to a military school, or any other literary institution, which are more particularly designed to prepare young gentlemen to enter upon the study of the learned professions of medicine, law, or divinity. Such an object as this is certainly worthy the attention of the State Agricultural Board. The Female Collegiate Institute which it is now proposed to convert into a Collegiate and Agricultural Institute, is a substantial brick building one hundred and eighty feet long, thirty-six wide, and has fifty-two rooms, cost within ten years past between twenty-eight and thirty thousand dollars. It can now be purchased for six thousand dollars with one hundred and twenty acres of land attached to it.—It is situated in one of the most healthy regions of Virginia—of easy access, only twelve miles from New Canton on the James River and Kanawha Canal, and eighty miles from Richmond. A daily line of stages passes the Institute to meet the canal packets. It is in a fine, respectable neighborhood of country gentlemen; removed from all haunts of vice and dissipation; and where, if any where, the morals of the youth can be guarded. If the Agricultural Board will move in this matter and let the public know they design to purchase these premises for an Agricultural Institute, in less than three months three collectors appointed for this purpose will raise ten thousand dollars for the object. In old Buckingham alone at least from two to three thousand dollars could be raised for it. Yea, let the Board act at once, secure the premises, and the farming interests of the country will sustain them.

J. F. SCHERMERHORN.

STUMP LIFTER.

What is the best kind of machine for taking out stumps? Many contrivances have been got up for the purpose of clearing fields of stumps. One of the most common in this section is the wheel and axis, mounted on high posts so as to lift the stumps up. The Albany Cultivator has a cut of one which it says cost \$300 or \$400, and which has cost the inventor, first and last, \$10,000 to bring to perfection. This appears to be an excellent machine, but although it requires but a single horse to pull up a stump of the largest size, yet it costs too much for "these diggins."

We have seen the following very simple plan of stump clearing, adopted with good success.

Take a strong, stiff, hard wood stick of timber, say fifteen or twenty feet long and six inches in diameter. Cut around the stump and take off some of the roots; then place the timber upright against the stump, and chain them together strong. From the upper end, which is

now in the air, let the chain pass to the axletree of a pair of cart wheels, to the tongue of which a pair of strong oxen are attached. When all is ready, start the oxen along, and the stump "keels over" as easy as you capsize a cabbage in a garden.—*Maine Farmer.*

WOOL.

We have the satisfaction of knowing that our efforts to draw the attention of the farming community of our own immediate region to the important subject of wool growing, is being realized, and that they are awaking to a sense of the vast resources that are presenting themselves through sheep raising, and also of the increasing value of the mountain lands in this State adapted to this purpose.

A few facts connected with the history of other countries, when brought before the notice of the farmers of Tennessee, and indeed of the whole of the South-Western States, if considered with care, will, we think, induce many of them to revive their systems of sheep husbandry, and extend them to their utmost limits.

The growth of wool has never been undertaken by any country or by any people, without returning to that people all the blessings to be enjoyed on this earth, that peace and plenty could bestow. The political situation of Spain may for a time, and no doubt, will operate against that prosperity which she has so long enjoyed through her wool trade; and it is probable that her flocks may comparatively degenerate, through the anarchy and confusion that reigns through her once fair provinces. In this respect she stands a warning to every true patriot, though it is satisfactory to know that even this confusion had not taken place until the civilized portion of the globe have availed themselves of the treasures once possessed by Spain alone, but now happily spread to nearly every corner of the earth.

One reference that we will make to exemplify the results of a judicious system of sheep husbandry, is to that of Germany, standing as she does before the world, as the greatest exporting wool country known. It is to be borne in mind, that previous to the year 1765, Saxony was not a sheep raising country, and that it was entirely owing to the enlightened policy of her then ruler, who enforced his views, especially amongst his own tenantry, making it a part of his agreement with those to whom he rented, that they should keep a certain number of sheep. And let us now see her condition. It appears from the parliamentary documents, that the wool imported from Germany into England, in the year 1841, amounted to 20,958,775 pounds, being more than a third of all the foreign wool, including all the colonies, imported into that kingdom in the course of that year.

Let us look at the wool producing colonies of England. That of New South Wales, established in 1787, under all the disadvantages of her convict and criminal population. In the year 1841, (a period of fifty-four years from her first settlement,) she imported into England 7,993,060 lbs. of wool; while her more infant establishment of Van Dieman's Land, sent into the mother country 3,507,531 lbs.—and it is worthy to remark, that the first ship landed in that island did not take place till 1807. The total amount of wool imported into England during the year 1841, was 56,170,974 pounds, (which is presumed to be equal to the amount grown in that country)—making a total of 112,341,948 lbs. It also appears, that there was at the close of the year, 6,912,060 lbs. of foreign wool in bond, and presuming that there were about the same amount of home grown wool unmanufactured, the amount used in the manufacturing establishments of England for 1841, would be as near as possible 100,000,000 pounds.

We have not at hand any report of the amount of wool grown in the United States in 1841, though we have of that of her imports, which it appears was 11,409,764 lbs. In 1839, the wool grown in this country was 34,812,114 lbs.; and the probability is, that the amount was not much increased in 1841, which if we take as a data to work upon, we have a total of 47,211,878 pounds, being nearly one half the amount manufactured by England that year.

Our imports of manufactured woollen goods, from England alone, in that year amounted to \$1,521,880, or \$1,366,338—so says the parliamentary report. What amount we imported from Germany, France, &c., we are at present uninformed of. That France is manufacturing extensively, and that she is short of the raw material, we are assured from the fact of her having agents through the whole Western and South-Western States, engaged in the purchase of every quality of wool; and taking all these circumstances into consideration, we have this state of things presented before us:

First, that as a pastoral people withal, and beyond the necessary resources under our control, we do not grow sufficient wool for our own use, but import upwards of \$10,000,000 worth of manufactured woollen goods yearly to meet our demand for that article, besides a large proportion of the unmanufactured material. That as a commercial people, upon which we pride ourselves, we are too careless to take advantage of and meet the wishes of a good customer for an article which we can raise in the greatest abundance, and a certainly larger amount of profit than any people. Will not our farmers reflect on these things? Once again, with a view to drawing their attention to the subject, we inform them that every farmer in the State

can have cash for every ounce of wool he can raise, at more than remunerating prices; that one house in Nashville alone is authorized to purchase one million of pounds—indeed, an unlimited amount for French exportation; that home consumption must necessarily increase; that, with ordinary attention, the quality and staple of the wool itself will be so improved as to produce a greater return; that our particular section of country is better adapted to sheep-raising than any other in America; that our climate is such that we can do all Spain or Australia can accomplish; that indeed nothing is wanting but the judicious action of the farmers of Tennessee in the improvement of their breed of sheep, and an expansion of their flocks, to insure themselves and the State at large a position unequalled in the annals of agricultural history.—*Tennessee Agriculturist*.

Every thing that can be said of Tennessee and Nashville, is true of Virginia and of Richmond. We have here now a large woollen factory in progress, and we have been promised from the most competent hand an article upon the subject of wool growing in Virginia, that, if we mistake not, will exercise a powerful influence upon this department of agricultural labor.

For the Southern Planter.

ANOTHER AGRICULTURAL CLUB.

Mr. Editor,—Knowing the great interest you feel in the cause of agriculture, I take pleasure in informing you, and through the Planter (if you think it advisable) the public generally, of the organization of a Farmers' Club, a few miles below the city of Richmond. Our Club is composed of Chickahominy farmers of both sides, and we, therefore, call it the "Henrico and Hanover Chickahominy Farmers' Club." Our Constitution requires that we meet once every month, except the winter months, at the farms of the members in rotation. We have had two very pleasant meetings and have instituted, or rather initiated, several very interesting experiments, which we think may lead to important results. Apart from the great benefit to agriculture which these Associations unquestionably produce, not the least important result, is the kindly interest created among neighbors in each other's general welfare.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN R. GARNETT.

May 28, 1845.

LARGE CHESTS.

Horses that are round, or "barrel-chested," are invariably more muscular and enduring than

those of the opposite kind. Scientific sportsmen are, in a great measure, guided in their opinion of a horse's racing qualifications by his girth just behind his shoulders; by this test, a well known jockey foretold the reputation and prowess of the celebrated racer "Plenipotentiary," almost from the period of his birth. Cattle-dealers and butchers, in like manner, judge by the chests and shoulders of cows and pigs what amount of fat they are likely to gain in the process of feeding. All animals that have large lungs are remarkable for the vigor of their appetite, and for the facility with which they appropriate their nutriment; such animals will feed upon the coarsest hay and straw, whilst their less fortunately constructed companions are fattened by no kind of food. An amusing anecdote is related of a simpleton, who, in trying to sell his horse, declared that "*the animal's eating was a mere nothing.*" The intelligence would, contrary to intention, have sufficed to ruin the prospect of sale, but that the buyer, with a rare discrimination, inferred from the horse's chest that the capacity of his appetite had been unwittingly misstated. He bought him on the hazard of an opinion, and had no reason to repent of his judgment.—*Medical Times.*

For the Southern Planter.

MOTH LURE.

Mr. Editor,—Students, and others, disposed to protract their vigils to a late hour in the warm season of the year, are often cruelly annoyed by the impertinent buzzing and flapping of moths, bugs, and night-flies of every description, about their candle, eyes, nose, mouth, and upon the paper or page before them. Having experienced a full share of persecution in this way, I thought the grievance sufficiently serious to ponder upon some means of deliverance. A very simple contrivance soon presented itself. As it is evident, these nocturnal marauders are attracted by the light, it is necessary simply to set up a rival establishment in some remote part of the room, and to render it as glaring and conspicuous as possible, by crowding in close approximation to the flame of the candle, sheets of blank paper, or other white and shining surfaces. This is the crude idea. It is obvious, however, that this contrivance is susceptible of indefinite improvement, according to the pains one chooses to bestow upon it. It answers the purpose exceedingly well; and what has for several nights contributed so materially to my own peace and comfort, I cannot refrain from communicating for the benefit of others. On the night of the experiment, I was so charmed with my success, that I did little else than recline in my quiet corner, and admire the motley group of uncouth customers attracted by the new establishment.

It offers, too, incidentally, great facilities to the study of *entomology*. For I observe that the superior attractions of such a studied entertainment, convoked many distinguished individuals of the insect tribe, that never condescend to appear on ordinary occasions. This contrivance lays no claim to be considered a wonderful discovery, but it is unquestionably a *brilliant* one; and what renders it more interesting, is, (if you will pardon a poor and trite pun,) the fact, that henceforth, thousands will continue to throw new light upon it.

Yours, &c.

W. H. E.

Charlotte Court House, Va.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Two enterprising citizens and practical mechanics, of Westville, in this county, have invented, or made an improvement upon the patent locks of wagons. The improvement, or what they claim as their invention, is this: The wagon is so constructed that when it begins to descend a hill, and the horses cease pulling, the bed will press forward and cause the rubbers to come in contact with the wheels, and just in proportion to the weight of the load, and the steepness of the hill, will be the force which the rubbers are pressed against the wheels, to retard their turning. As soon as the wagon gets on level ground again, and the horses re-commence pulling, the bed is drawn back to its usual station, and the rubbers at the same time are moved from the wheels, thus locking itself by the pressing of the bed forward, and unlocking itself by the draft of the horses.

The inventors, D. D. Gibson and W. Cobbs, have secured the right to it by letters patent, under the name of "*Gibson & Cobbs' Self-Locking Wagon.*"—*Ohio Farmer.*

HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF HORSES.

BY W. H. SMITH, V. S., OF PHILADELPHIA.

To the Editor of the Spirit of the Times:

Sir,—I find on perusing the "Spirit" of 22d instant, an account of the successful homœopathic treatment of glanders and farcy in horses, in Europe. I cannot express the satisfaction it has given me, as it now enables me to lay before the readers of your valuable journal, facts which I have long wished to make generally known.

In the spring of 1841, I was induced to make some experiments on cases of this loathsome and hitherto incurable disease, and must say that the success I have met with, has been beyond my utmost expectations. The first case I will cite, is that of a bay horse, six years old, given me for homœopathic experiment, affected with both glanders and farcy. The remedies

employed in this case were *dulcamara mercurius solubilis hepat sulphuris, acidum phosphoricum*, and *silicia* in the sixth dilution. In two weeks from the commencement of the treatment, I had the satisfaction of observing a marked improvement in the symptoms, which gradually continued. At the end of three months he was perfectly cured, except a thickening of the integuments of the near hind leg, which had been covered with ulcers called farcy buds. This I removed by *thuya* in the third dilution, given every other day as M. Leblanc describes, two or three drops in a small quantity of sugar of milk placed upon the tongue. I refused frequently for this horse \$300, from a gentleman who saw him in the worst stage of the disease, and who witnessed the progress of the cure. He is now owned by a gentleman of this city, and has never had an hour's sickness since he has been in his possession—upwards of three years.

A sorrel horse, aged, was attacked with glanders: with the aid of the above remedies, I effected a complete cure in six weeks. During the last four years I have treated fourteen cases of glanders, and twelve of them successfully, in from one to three months. I have in my possession at this time, a horse twenty-two years old;—one of the twelve above named—it is now two years since his recovery. He never was in finer health or condition than at the present time. This will conclusively show that glanders and farcy are diseases within the control of homeopathy, and that hundreds of valuable animals have been sacrificed. During the last four years, I have treated every disease to which the horse is liable, on the same principle, and the result proves the fact, that diseases thus treated are cured in a much less time, and with little or no loss of condition to the animal.

Should you deem this communication worthy of notice in your valuable paper, you will oblige me by inserting it. I have kept a diary of all the cases worthy of note that have come under my care, and shall feel most happy in giving you some of them in detail.

I remain, dear sir,

Yours, respectfully,

WM. H. SMITH, *Vet. Surgeon.*

YANKEES EMIGRATING TO VIRGINIA.

The Parkersburg Gazette says that many of the sturdy farmers of New York and Vermont, who have been for some time past reconnoitering the interior of that portion of Virginia from the great Kanawha River to that town, express themselves highly pleased, warmly eulogizing its proverbially rich soil, timber, climate, minerals, &c., and that they are satisfied that it is remarkably well adapted to the raising of sheep, cattle, &c., in which they have heretofore been engaged. They are understood to be a deputa-

tion from ninety families residing in the above named States and they have selected lands in the counties of Wood and Gilmer, for the company they represent, many of whom will take possession at once with large flocks of sheep.

Lynchburg Virginian.

If our Northern friends will only call on us in Greenbrier county, we can furnish lands as cheap, and of as superior quality, as any they will find in Wood or Gilmer. No lands in all Virginia can produce better grass, and none more suitable to the rearing of cattle, horses and sheep.—*Lewisburg Observer.*

MANUFACTURES.

With the exception of a few fruits and vegetables, the earth yields none of her products ready to supply the wants and desires of mankind. They all need the elaboration of art before they are calculated for the appropriation of the consumer. But for the labor of the artisan or manufacturer, seven-eighths of the earth's products would lie a useless incumbrance on our hands. Hence the intimate and mutual dependence of the manufacturer and the farmer. The manufacturer stands between the producer and the consumer, and he is the only means through which the former can reach the latter. We may be well excused, then, for occupying a small space in an agricultural paper upon the subject of manufactures.

There is a great question of the policy of affording governmental protection to manufactures, with which we have nothing to do; because, it has been made a political and party question, and this is a pool much too foul and turbid for our taste. Differ as we may, however, upon this great political question, there is, and there can be, no difference of opinion as to the policy of affording *individual* support and encouragement to our manufactures. For the farmer the manufacturer must exist, and the question is, how desirable is it to have him located amongst us, rather than at a distance from us. It is neither possible nor desirable that Virginia should become what is emphatically called, a manufacturing State. Men never work within walls of brick and mortar, as long as they can become independent landholders on the terms on which they can command such a boon in the Southern and Western States, and God forbid that it should ever be otherwise.

Although we have many objections to that state of society in which the manufacturing po-

pulation predominates, we cannot but be sensibly alive to the advantages of having manufacturing establishments interspersed through rural districts. In the first place, there are many minor agricultural products, which in their nature will not bear transportation, that are consumed by the operatives in these establishments. And these operatives, who would otherwise be either drones, or rival producers of our agricultural staples, are thus converted into consumers of the most profitable kind of agricultural products. To say nothing of large establishments for foreign markets, imagine that all the hats, shoes, boots, cotton and woollen clothing, &c. &c., that are consumed in Virginia were manufactured within her borders, what a large portion of her labor would be converted from sellers into purchasers of agricultural products. How quickly would our granaries, now groaning under the surplus of breadstuffs, be emptied of their contents! Every waterfall would become a manufacturing village, and thousands who are engaged in overproducing the staples of wheat, corn and tobacco, would be employed in making vegetables, butter, cheese, &c., for this new population.

To insure the establishment of manufactures in the South, we must demonstrate that the system will be advantageous to the manufacturer as well as to the agriculturist. Now, we do not think, as a general thing, that the South is the place for manufacturing. The habits of the people are too expensive; we are too extravagant; in short, we are not *poor* enough to compete with the Northern manufacturer. But there are some species of manufactures, and they not a few in number, in which from peculiar and local circumstances, we can compete with any body in the world; indeed, as the fertility of our soil is exhausted by bad cultivation, the great bar to manufacturing to which we just now alluded, viz: the expensive habits of the people, must eventually fall with the cause that gave rise to it. We already feel that a change in that respect must take place, and we are every year approaching nearer to the manufacturing point; but even with this disadvantage against us, there are many articles of manufacture of which the transportation forms so large a proportion of the whole cost, that under any circumstances, the home market should be supplied with the home product. Virginia is supplied with corn brooms manufactured in the

State of Connecticut. The retail price will average thirty cents. The manufacturer in the interior of Connecticut, cannot receive more than twelve and a half; yet, with that it is a profitable business, and he frequently makes more per annum than a Virginia tobacco planter. This is one article, the manufacture of which would divert labor from our staples (the great desideratum) both in the operatives that it would put in the factory, and in the demand it would create for minor agricultural products. There are thousands such; for we rely upon the North for every kind of manufactured article, and even for some of our agricultural products. We know more than one gentleman in the town of Fredericksburg who procures his winter supply of cabbages from New York, and any Tuesday morning, butter from the State of Delaware may be found in the Richmond market. The next thing probably will be, that we shall employ the Yankees to chew our food for us.

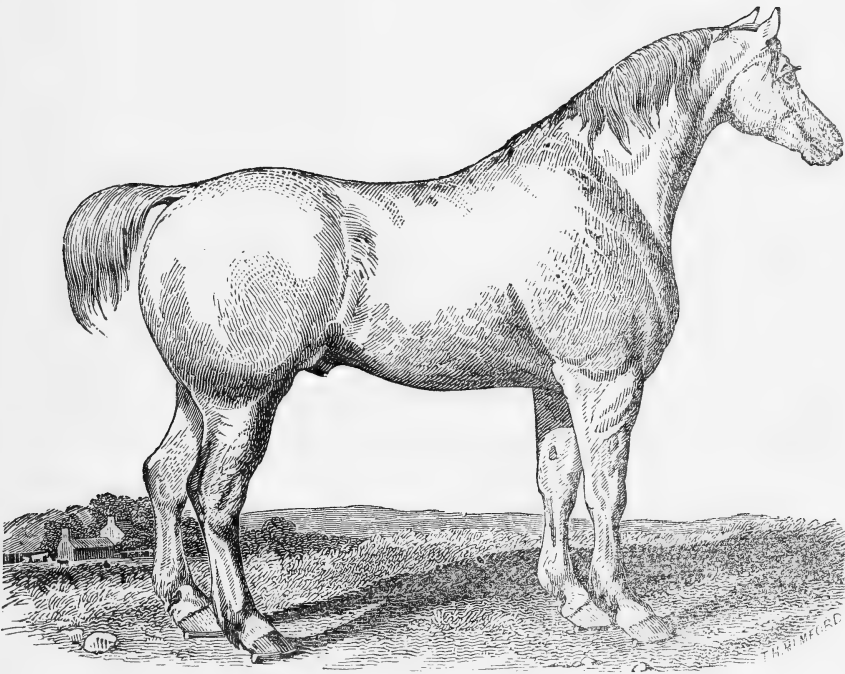
The productions of Virginia may be said literally to be confined to corn, wheat and tobacco. That was all well enough whilst there was an unlimited demand for these articles at prices that remunerated better than any other products. But is that the case at present? The lawyers say, *cessante ratione, cessat lex*, that is, when the reason for a thing ceases, the thing itself ought to cease. The vast extension of these great staples in the South and West, has evidently overstocked the market and brought these products below the relative profits of others. Should we then continue to make them? They, to be sure, are great staples, and probably the demand for them is greater than for any one product to which our soil and climate are congenial, but to all other products which may be raised in Virginia; they do not bear the proportion of one to a hundred. We are then confining ourselves to one hundredth part of the products which we might make, and we are at the same time bitterly complaining of the reduced price of these products. Suppose all the mechanics in the State of Virginia were engaged in the making of hats, would it be very wonderful if the market were overstocked, and the price of hats very much reduced?

The evil is obvious enough; but for the remedy. Who is to be the pioneer; who is to embark his fortunes in these new products with which we are all unacquainted; where is the skill to come from? Many of the agricultural articles

which might be profitably added to the productions of Virginia are so simple as to require little additional skill upon the part of the farmer.—Where skill is required, either for agricultural or manufactured articles to which our circumstances are adapted, let it be obtained. If the present generation is too old to learn, let us have our children taught. Instead of crowding the *professions*, as they are called, with promising young men, who for want of employment fall into evil habits and become a nuisance to so-

ciety, let us have them thoroughly instructed in some of the mechanic arts, and put them at the head of an establishment smaller or larger, as our means may allow. This is the best education we can give them—it is the best legacy we can leave them. Hundreds of avenues to wealth, honor, and distinction, are open to the youth of Virginia, who have the spirit and independence to throw off old prejudices under which they are wasting away the vigor and energy of manhood.

SUFFOLK PUNCH.



We have said before, that every farmer in Virginia ought to raise his own horses. It is frequently urged that the food consumed by a colt will sell for more in Eastern Virginia than will suffice to purchase a good horse from the West. These sort of calculations do very well on paper, but observation has satisfied us that those farmers prosper best, who raise most and purchase least.

With respect to the cost of raising horses, the food consumed should never be calculated at the market price; because in many cases the transportation, the expense attending the contracting,

&c., consume one half of the amount. Moreover, a great deal of inferior food may be fed to a colt which would be hardly worth carrying to market, and which but for this disposition of it, would be entirely lost. Not that we mean to recommend an inferior or indifferent style of raising; the colt should always be kept in good order, and it is for the want of the observance of this principle, that so many farmers in this part of the country are complaining of the want of bone and muscle in the blooded horse.

Our engraving is a representation of the Suffolk Punch, a family greatly admired in England

for farming purposes. His deep chest, his round body, his broad loin and full muscles, give unerring tokens of the power and endurance that the ploughman loves to see. Let us for the purposes of draught select such a model as this, and become independent of the coarse, flabby, thick legged, big hoofed horses of the West.—There is no place of its size in the Union that affords a better market for good horses than the capital of Virginia. Our market has been overstocked with them this spring, and the price has been very low; but so scarce are really good horses, that we have not seen what we would call a *cheap* one this year.

INCOMBUSTIBLE COATING FOR WOOD.

I send you below, Messrs. Editors, a recipe for making a composition which will render wood perfectly incombustible. It is very simply prepared and quite easy of application, being used the same as a paint with an ordinary brush. A good coat of it applied to the floor under the stoves would be an excellent precaution.

Take a quantity of water, proportionate to the surface of the wood you may wish to cover, and add to it as much potash as can be dissolved therein. When the water will dissolve no more potash, stir into the solution, first a quantity of flour paste of the consistency of common painter's size; second, a sufficiency of pure clay to render it of the consistency of cream.

When the clay is well mixed, apply the preparation as before directed to the wood; it will secure it from the action of both fire and rain. In a most violent fire, wood thus saturated may be carbonated but it will never blaze.

If desirable, a most agreeable color can be given to the preparation, by adding a small quantity of red or yellow ochre.—*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser*.

ABORTION AMONG COWS.

Earl Spencer says, that since he placed lumps of rock salt in his pasture lands, none of his cows have suffered abortion.

For the Southern Planter.

THE TUCKAHOE.

Mr. Editor,—I have read with interest the communications of Mr. Fontaine and Dr. Archer on the Tuckahoe. In Rees' Cyclopædia the following account is given of it:

"Tuckahoe, in botany the North American Indian name of a very extraordinary production, found in various parts of the United States which appears to be a subterranean fungus nearly al-

lied to the genus tuber. The Tuckahoe is found in irregular more or less globular or oblong lumps, from an ounce to thirty pounds in weight, having a brown corrugated bark. Its internal substance is uniform, solid, snow-white, farinaceous, with little or no taste or smell, and has been used by the natives as food. This production is generally found *attached to the roots of some tree*, especially of the genera *pinus* and *quercus*, the fibres of which are interwoven with part of its texture, but in process of time are obliterated. The growth appears to be very slow. In decay the inner substance assumes an acid flavor and brown color."

In the History of Louisiana by M. Le Page Du Pratz, page 247, I find the following: "To what I have said of trees, I shall only add from my own knowledge an account of two singular excrescences. The first is a kind of agaric, or mushroom, which grows from the *root of the walnut tree*, especially when it is felled. The natives, who are very careful in the choice of their food, gather it with great attention, boil it in water and eat it with their gruel. I had the curiosity to taste of it and found it very delicate, but rather insipid, which might be easily corrected with a little seasoning." It is possible that this is the anomalous Tuckahoe. If so, the Tuckahoe, according to this traveller, is not the truffle, for on page 252 he adds, "I cannot affirm from my own knowledge that the soil in this province produces either white mushrooms or truffles."

The following extracts are taken from note 32 to an introductory discourse delivered by De Witt Clinton, before the Literary and Philosophical Society of New York in 1814: "The bulb of arrowhead or sagittaria sagittifolia, boiled or roasted in hot ashes was eat by our Indians. It tasted nearly like potatoes. It is commonly an inch and a half long and one inch and a half broad in the middle, is sometimes as large as a man's fist, and grows in low, muddy and very wet ground. It composes a considerable part of the food of the Chinese, and is cultivated by them. It ought to be carefully guarded against swine, who eagerly devour it. In a valley to the west of the Rocky Mountains which extends seventy miles, it is found in great abundance and is a principal article of trade between the inhabitants of that valley and those of the sea coast.

"Our Indians also made use of the root of a vegetable which they called tawhotawkin or tuckah, and which Kalm says, is the *arum virginicum*, or wake-robin. When fresh it has a pungent taste, but when roasted it is like potatoes. It flourishes in moist grounds and swamps and often grows to the thickness of a man's thigh, but is nearly extirpated by the hogs. . . .

"The Tuckahoe (or tawkee, as Kalm supposes,) was probably a native of this State [New

York.] The lycoperdon tuber, of Linnæus, called truffles, grows here and in New Jersey, and we have a place called Tuckahoe. *These tuberous productions are not the same.* The Indians made delicious bread from their farinaceous matter."

Yours, truly, C. CAMPBELL.
June 7, 1845.

From the American Agriculturist.

MODE OF RAISING ASPARAGUS BY THE ARABS.

Among the list of fruits and vegetables in the "Treatise on Agriculture," by Abu Zacharia Jahia Ben Mohamad Ben Ahmad, a native of Seville, in Spain, is mentioned the following singular mode of raising asparagus, as well as a remarkable property possessed by that vegetable:—If a stalk of asparagus be smeared with honey, and after being sprinkled with oak ashes, be committed to the ground, it will produce many stems, particularly white ones, of considerable thickness, and sometimes part colored towards the top.

To Remove the Taint in Meat.—The Arabian author adds, that the pulverized root of the asparagus, mixed with oil, if rubbed into meat either already tainted, or almost corrupted (provided this be previously washed,) will totally remove its fætor or taint. B.

For the Southern Planter.

A COCKLE SCREEN.

Mr. Editor,—In the May number of the Planter, in a communication from Dr. Wrenn, of Isle of Wight, I observe an inquiry in relation to a *screen* which will answer for separating cockle and cheat from wheat. I recollect that in the winter of 1843-4, whilst in Richmond, I had a conversation with you about various agricultural implements, and among others, mentioned the fact that an improved screen had been for some years in use in Augusta and some of the neighboring counties, that in all respects comes up to Dr. W.'s idea on this subject. I think, too, that I promised you a cut and description of it for the Planter, but from negligence, I may just as well admit, it has been left undone. The screen is made of the common wire, used for such purposes, and in a cylindrical form, with a hopper at one end, into which the wheat is poured, and by a crank at the opposite end the cylinder is turned by a very slight power, and the grain passes along the whole length of the cylinder, which is composed of wire of three different textures, and falls out just at the foot of the person turning it, entirely clear of all cockle and chess, and at the same time freed of a good portion of rye, (if any,) the

grain of which is thinner than wheat. The article is most deservedly esteemed by all farmers who have tried it, and the only wonder is, that it is not in more general use. The usual cost is from ten to fifteen dollars, and it may be procured by addressing George Myerly, the manufacturer, at Staunton. It is very light, and can be moved or carried about with great facility.—It may be well to add, that in an ordinary crop of six or eight hundred bushels of wheat, the price will be more than saved to the farmer in the light wheat, &c., all of which the miller receives, and the loss of which is too often observed in the half starved hogs and poultry on most of our farms. In addition, it is no small saving of labor to those who have been in the habit of picking their seed wheat just before it ripens, by hand, a most tedious, and with the nicest care, a most imperfectly performed task. So well, too, are the millers here pleased with the article, that they have procured one or more for their mills, in order that their customers who are too sparing to buy one, may use it at the mill, and thus relieve the miller of the grievous reflections, so often indulged in when they don't get extra-superfine or family flour made of stuff taken to the mill, scarcely one-third of which is wheat.

You may use this or any part of it, as you desire, and I shall be gratified if I can be instrumental in seeing the farming interest benefited by the extension of so valuable an implement.

With a most sincere wish for your welfare personally, and as the friend of the agricultural improvement of "Poor Old Virginia," I remain,

Very respectfully, yours,

J. MARSHALL M'CUE.

Mount Solon, May 28, 1845.

EASTERN VIRGINIA.

We copy the following letter, addressed to the Editor of the American Agriculturist, chiefly because it confirms, upon the authority of an intelligent and disinterested foreigner, the opinion we have so often expressed, that no part of the Union offers so good a chance for investment as that portion of old Virginia from which her sons are daily emigrating.

We have frequently found a very erroneous opinion existing upon the subject of the healthiness of Eastern Virginia. Below tide water, the river situations, it is true, are subject to bilious disease in the fall of the year, but these attacks, instead of bearing the malignant character of yellow fever, as some seem to suppose, are mild, and seldom occasion more than slight indisposition for two or three weeks in the year; and with this exception, the people hardly know

what disease is. We once heard Gen. Jackson, who was at least a man of strong mind and profound observation, remark, that of all the portions of the world that had come under his notice none had been so blessed by nature as the tide water region of Virginia.

The country above tide water, which Mr. Lewis did not visit, presents different but almost equal attractions, and is as healthful as any portion of the globe.

VIRGINIA LANDS.

In compliance with my promise, I will attempt to give you a limited description of that portion of Virginia which I went to see for the purpose of settling. I first went to Washington, and having letters to the Hon. S. B. Strong, M. C., of this District, and the Hon. M. B. Leonard, of your city, I stated to them that I wished to visit Eastern Virginia, when they introduced me to the Hon. Messrs. Bayly and Atkinson, of Virginia. These gentlemen gave me some information in relation to the land in their districts, and letters to some of their friends residing in the counties I wished to visit.

From Washington I went by the rail road to Richmond, and from Richmond down James River by steamboat, stopping at Grove Wharf, the steamboat landing for Williamsburg. The north bank of the James River is perhaps one of the finest wheat districts in the United States; the Shirley estate, nearly opposite City Point, averages about thirty bushels of wheat per acre. The Brandon estates make ten thousand bushels each per year. Westover, and many other estates, in the same proportion. I rode over portions of James City, York, and Warwick counties. The James River lands are generally of a stiff clay, but grow lighter and more loamy as they recede from the river, until you come on to the ridge, which divides the small streams that empty into York and James rivers—thence to the York River they change very little. The York River lands are not as stiff as those on the James River until you get below Yorktown, where the land is lower, flatter and stiffer. The higher lands are considerably broken with deep ravines, particularly on the rivers; and from them the marls, which underlay the whole country, and with which I supplied you samples, are dug to be applied to the soil. This marl is frequently found at the surface in the sides of the ravines. In nearly all these ravines there are small streams of water issuing out, and often spreading over the whole bottom, which is the chief cause of the fall sickness, such as fever and ague, and bilious fever, which are no worse than at the boasted West, if as bad. These can be drained at a small expense.

Nearly three-fourths of the land from the

Chickahominy to Hampton is in forest. The benefit of marling here has been surprising, especially on the farm of Mr. Nelson (to whom I had a letter of introduction), and at Yorktown, on the battle ground, which I have not time to describe, otherwise than to say that the plough and time have obliterated nearly all the evidences of the American parallels, while the British redoubts remain in a good state of preservation. Mr. N. politely showed the farms in his neighborhood. I saw a very striking effect of marl on these also. On one of these a field had been marled, leaving by accident a strip unmarled. The difference was perceptible as far as the grain could be seen.

The farm of Mr. Wynne, on James River, at the Grove Wharf, is a good illustration of the effect of marling and clovering. Having a letter to him, and being kindly invited to partake of his generous hospitality for several days, I had during my rambles there a good opportunity of examining his farm and mode of cultivation.—He is a very intelligent and gentlemanly man, and a very good practical farmer; and any one visiting that part of Virginia for a location, would do well to call and see him. People from all sections of Virginia daily passing, gives him an ample opportunity to become extensively acquainted in his State. He told me that he bought his farm six years ago, and it was thought to be very poor. He has one thousand acres of land. The house is one of the finest specimens of the old Virginia style I saw in my rambles. It is seventy-four by forty-four feet, two stories high, the stories fifteen feet between joints, with wainscotted ceiling. It is built of brick, and more than a hundred years old, and still in a fine state of preservation. He said that when he bought the farm it would not produce more than three hundred bushels of wheat a year, and by marling, clovering, and other improvement, his last year's crop reached one thousand six hundred bushels, eighty acres averaging sixteen bushels per acre. If he carries out his present system of improvement, he can double this yield in six years more. He cultivates on the three field system; corn, wheat, clover; sowing wheat after corn, and some on a clover ley, and then putting corn right after wheat.—If land will improve under this system I think it must be good. Such a continued cropping might be exchanged for one like this with profit—first corn, second oats, third clover, fourth wheat, fifth, sixth and seventh, if you please, with clover and timothy, and keep more stock, and keep them better, for the cattle in Virginia are miserable enough. Thus they would make more manure, and consequently raise more grain; and the more manure there is applied, the more marl the land will bear. Southern Virginia owes an inestimable debt of gratitude to Mr. Ruffin for his work on calcareous manures; for

marls were rarely applied, and scarcely known as a manure until after the appearance of his work. Mr. Wynne's farm is but an illustration of many others, and he assured me that he knew many farms which produced ten bushels of wheat now, where they did one ten years ago.

Farms with improvements on them can be bought from three to twenty dollars per acre through the whole peninsula, with perhaps few exceptions about Hampton and the lower part of York county; some few very rich farms are held higher; but I saw good farms off the rivers, and some on, that can be bought for five, eight and ten dollars per acre. Here, it is not more than fifteen miles from one river to the other.—At any place, oysters, fish, and fowl abound, of the finest quality. The south side of James River is much the same kind of land, except that it is sandier and thinner, and there is much heavy timber in Surry, Isle of Wight, Nansemond, Princess Anne, the surface flat, and much of the two last slashy. There is some good land on the Nansemond and Elizabeth rivers. On the Nansemond and about Hampton, large quantities of melons, and potatoes, and other vegetables, are grown for the northern markets. The farms here are smaller and the lands higher than the others I have named. There are tracts to be found on the rivers, which an enterprising man can pay for in the wood in a few years, by cutting wood and timber. The lands between the York and Rappahannock rivers, and so on through up to the Potomac, differ little in quality and price with the lands I have described. Gloucester county is considered one of the best in lower Virginia. Want of space compels me to cut my epistle short.

I might say much more in relation to means of improvement, and go more minutely into the character of some lands that I have merely alluded to; but I think from my own observation, reading and acquaintance with men who have travelled over those portions of the Union which I have not, that Eastern Virginia presents greater inducements to Northern men to emigrate there than any portion of the United States, and I should recommend any one wishing to change his location to at least look at it. I fear I shall tire your patience by my hurried epistle.

G. P. LEWIS.

Huntington, L. I., Feb. 28, 1845.

From the Saturday American.

LIGHTNING RODS.

I will consider the several queries proposed in your favor of August 30th, in order.

1. "Do the square rods possess any superiority over the round ones as conductors of electricity?"

Farady, one of the best authorities on electric-

ty, asserts that the conducting power of a rod is proportioned to its *mass*, or quantity of matter, and not to its surface; and the same doctrine is assumed by an English writer, in "Sturgeon's Annals of Electricity." It is admitted that the fluid pervades only the surface; still it is maintained that the conducting power depends on the mass. I have not in my possession any set of experiments which authorizes the opinion of Farady, but he doubtless had, or he would not have asserted it to be a fact. If this doctrine be true, then so long as the mass is the same, it is of no consequence whether the rod is square or round.

2. "Are a number of points attached to the extremity of a rod preferable to one?"

According to the experiments of Earl Stanhope, made more than sixty years ago, a single needle will discharge a leyden jar more rapidly than a bundle of the same, and in conformity with this, a single point is generally used for the termination of lightning rods in Europe, and I believe one is preferable to several—especially where they diverge from each other as they commonly do. In the lightning rods constructed by a skilful manufacturer in this city, the upper termination is formed by a sharp copper spindle, at the base, of the same diameter as the rod—say an inch or three-fourths of an inch. This is permanently gilded by the electrotype process. It makes a beautiful finish, as may be seen in the rods recently erected in the new library of Yale College. The joint where the spindle is attached to the rod is as perfect as possible—a cylindrical projection on the spindle, nicely turned, fitting closely into a hole in the end of the rod, nicely bored. All the parts of a rod should be fitted by joints as close as this.—Many rods have proved defective, within my knowledge, merely because the parts were united loosely by the *hook-and-eye* joint.

3. "Are tubes to be preferred to solid cylinders, on account of the greater surface exposed?"

If Farady's doctrine, that the conducting power is proportioned to the mass, is true, then the tubes of a given diameter, cannot be equal in power to solid rods.

4. "Do the projecting points placed along the whole length of a rod, and at right angles with it, in some forms of conductors, increase the efficacy of the rods?"

In case a rod is well connected with the ground, so as to deliver the charge freely, I think such points are unnecessary, so far as they are supposed to dissipate the charge, and, therefore, to render it less dangerous than when it traverses the rod in a concentrated state. They are sometimes appended on the idea of inviting or directing a lateral or horizontal charge; but I have never seen any well attested fact of their utility in such cases. It appears to me of great importance to preserve all possible simplicity

and cheapness in the construction of rods, else we cannot hope for their being generally used. Hence, any appendage that is not decidedly advantageous, ought to be avoided.

5. "Are not vanes, balls and ornaments, which are often placed on rods, obstructions to the fluid?"

I think these appendages do not generally effect the efficacy of a rod.

6. "Should not lightning rods have a clean, smooth surface; and would not a coating of *tin* be beneficial?"

I do not suppose it to be important that the surface should be *smooth*; but it ought to be free from *rust*,—which greatly impairs the conducting power of iron. A coating of black paint—the basis of which is charcoal, (a good conductor,) or, better, a galvanized surface—which is not liable to oxidize, is essential to the permanent efficacy of a rod.

The most essential points in the construction of a rod, appear to me to be these: that the rods should project sufficiently high above surrounding objects, and terminate in a bright metallic spigot,—that its parts should have as perfect continuity as possible, and that it should descend to the depth of permanent moisture.

DENISON OLMSTED.

Yale College, Sept. 3, 1844.

HONING RAZORS.

We notice that soap and water has been highly recommended, in the place of oil, to be used upon hones in setting razors and other steel instruments. It is some years back that the trials of it were first made in England, but, from the certificates given of its superior cleanliness and efficacy, it would seem desirable that it should be generally adopted.—*Selected.*

FOOD FOR COWS.

We would commend the following article to the careful perusal of our readers, as it embraces a topic of great practical importance. With those familiar with the writings of M. Chabert, and his exalted character as a scholar, any commendation on our part, would of course appear superfluous:

M. Chabert, the director of the veterinary school of Alford, England, had a number of cows which yielded twelve gallons of milk every day. In his publication on the subject, he observes that cows fed in the winter on dry substances give less milk than those which are kept on a green diet, and also that their milk loses much of its quality. He published the following recipe, by the use of which his cows afforded him an equal quantity and quality of milk during the winter as during the summer: Take a bushel of potatoes, break them whilst

raw, place them in a barrel standing up, putting in successively a layer of bran, and a small quantity of yeast in the middle of the mass, which is to be left thus to ferment during a whole week, and when the vinous taste has pervaded the whole mixture, it is then given to the cows, who eat it greedily.—*Me. Cultivator.*

AGRICULTURAL PAPERS.

A very general prejudice exists against that class of farmers that seek improvement in their profession from books. This is a singular phenomenon, and instead of the scorn with which it is generally treated, is, in our opinion, worthy the deliberate investigation of the philosopher. The arts and sciences are admittedly more indebted to printing for their elevation and expansion, than to all other causes combined. Is agriculture a single exception to the general rule, or is the popular prejudice upon this subject altogether without foundation? We would willingly believe the latter, and yet in our investigations we have found the opinion of the uselessness of agricultural books strongest amongst some of the most practical and successful farmers in Virginia. Indeed, we are compelled to admit, that, as a general rule, those who have read least, have thriven best. This startling fact, this anomaly, has occasioned us no little uneasiness, but after much tribulation we think that, by a closer examination, we have been enabled to solve the difficulty without any disparagement to the claims of literature.

The pursuit of agriculture unquestionably involves within its circle a greater number of the sciences than any other occupation. Botany, geology, mineralogy, and chemistry are intimately connected with it; but besides that several of these sciences are still in their infancy, their application to agriculture for practical purposes, is as yet by no means well ascertained or defined. There is no telling what the labors of a Liebig and a Johnston may effect, but in the very nature of things agriculture must ever be the least exact of the sciences. We will not undertake to say what may be, but up to this time, in our opinion, such is the intricacy of the labyrinth which our agricultural philosophers are engaged in exploring, that the practical farmer is rather confounded than enlightened in its mazes. With all our respect for the venerated names of Chaptal and Davy, we are constrained to admit, that the really practical, valuable matter contained in the works of our agricultural writers,

are as a grain of wheat hid in two bushels of chaff. So slowly have our discoveries in the application of the sciences to the art of agriculture progressed, that in our opinion Professor Liebig possesses in this respect very little superiority over a distinguished farmer of Goochland, who perhaps never read a work upon botany in his life, and who is entirely ignorant of even the nomenclature of chemistry. The little that is really known of the science of agriculture, is readily and easily obtained and quickly disseminated; as far, therefore, as our observation has gone, there is no *great* difference between the scientific knowledge of one farmer and another. And yet there is undoubtedly a great difference between the results of different agriculturists: one grows rich and his land improves, whilst the other and his land grow poor together.—What occasions this difference if it be not a superior knowledge on the part of the one of the science of his profession? We will tell you what we think it is owing to, superior industry upon the part of the successful farmer, and hence a superior knowledge of the manipulations and tools required in the practice of his art. Do not let us be misunderstood; we reverence learning and information of every kind, but in the present state of things, we believe that Mr. Richard Sampson, of Goochland, or Mr. Hill Carter, of Charles City, can furnish examples of industry and personal attention to business, that are infinitely more valuable, and *more wanting* to the farmers of the South, than all the modern theories of ammonia, geine, and humus, put together. This we know, that without industry and personal attention, all the scientific knowledge in the world is of no avail, and that with it, a very small modicum of science will serve to make a farmer independent, and his family happy and comfortable. When the two are thoroughly united; when knowledge and industry go hand in hand, then shall we have the perfection of agriculture.

Another important element, perhaps, as we have said upon a former occasion, the most important element in successful farming, is the practice of economy. But this sometimes degenerates into penuriousness and narrowmindedness. A farmer will frequently refuse to lay out five dollars in an improved implement, that would return him tenfold its value. He never buys an agricultural book or takes an agricultural paper, although the statement of a single fact in the

latter, may be worth to him twenty times the amount of his subscription. Thus the extreme desire to make money, frequently defeats the very object of the miser. But such a man by the practice of economy gets rich—not in consequence, but in spite, of his policy in this respect. The world looks on, and says, here is Mr. A. who never reads an agricultural paper, that has gotten rich by farming, whilst Mr. B. who has had a collegiate education, and takes the *Cultivator*, and the *Farmer*, and the *Planter*, &c. &c., is ruining himself by book farming; therefore, a man is better without an agricultural paper than with one. We do not mean to say that this is always the case, that a man who takes an agricultural paper is necessarily ruined. God forbid! But we think that a large majority of the readers of agricultural papers, are liberally educated men, who, from the luxury to which they have been accustomed, have a distaste for the drudgery that is absolutely necessary to the successful pursuit of agriculture.—They too often endeavor to substitute scientific investigation, which is much more congenial to their habits, for indefatigable labor, and the failure which must follow any such attempt, too often brings *book farming* into disrepute. This is the way in which we account for the fact, that narrowmindedness and ignorance so often, in farming, get ahead of liberality and education. But if every man who takes our paper, will exercise a sound judgment in rejecting what is false, availing himself of what is true, and will at the same time resort to the same economy and an equal degree of application with his neighbor who does not read at all, we will answer for it, that the difference in the result will be too manifest to go unobserved. We have, we know, many warm friends, and we are deeply thankful for it; if they are desirous to extend the circulation of the *Planter*, let them follow our advice in this respect, and we will have no more difficulty about subscribers.

CURIOSITY AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

A very extraordinary and interesting natural curiosity has lately arrived at Windsor Castle, where it has been placed upon a large pedestal in the grand vestibule (leading to the Waterloo Chamber,) to which the public are admitted. It was recently in the Royal Conservatory at Kew, (having been sent as a present to the Sovereign from this country from China,) whence it has

been transferred to Windsor Castle, and evinces, in a peculiar manner, the extraordinary perseverance and ingenuity of the Chinese, who, during the progress of the growth of plants, have discovered the means of so transforming or training their roots as to make them assume the shape of various animals. The singular curiosity referred to is supposed by some to be the root of the large dogrose, and by others to be the root of the vine. It is about three feet in length, and of a proportionate height, and bears a close and extraordinary resemblance to the shape of a lion, having the legs and feet, head, tail and body, with its shaggy mane, most rudely perfect. By what means the Chinese acquire this mode of expanding and shaping the roots of plants, is still a mystery, although many ingenious inquiries and researches have been made on the subject. This, however, does not appear so extraordinary as the power some of the Chinese possess of dwarfing plants, for it is known they will produce an oak, not more than five or six inches in height, bearing acorns, and the same with respect to orange and lemon trees, of the same dwarfish character, also bearing fruits. Some specimens of these trees have occasionally been brought to this country, but none have lived for any length of time. The root referred to is well worthy the attention of the curious.—*London paper.*

CROPS ABROAD—GREAT PRODUCTION OF WHEAT.

We have examined with care files of foreign papers received by the last steam-ship, numerous exchange agricultural papers for September, as well as noticed all other sources of information, in order to form a correct judgment in regard to the late harvest, and the probable price of bread-stuffs for the ensuing year. The demand for American bread-stuffs in Great Britain must be quite small, and on the Continent still less. The season throughout the whole wheat region of Europe, has been upon the whole not an unfavorable one; while the crop has been cultivated with increased skill and augmented success. A large portion of the lands in England, are in the hands of the nobility and gentry, whose incomes depend on the skill and success with which their estates are cultivated. Not wanting in intelligence, and possessing abundant capital, these gentlemen are making extraordinary efforts to impart to every branch of rural industry all the advantages of modern science.

In his speech at the Derby meeting, the President of the *Royal Agricultural Society*, Lord *Harwick*, stated that he knew the agricultural products of the kingdom might be doubled—that he had doubled the products of his estate within the last fifteen years. Speaking of different varieties of wheat he said, that “the

Golden Drop wheat had produced forty-five bushels to the acre, fine Suffolk, seventy-six bushels, and another and more improved variety, *eighty-two* bushels per acre!” These were all grown on the same soil, with equal advantages except what were derived from difference in seed. These statements are taken from the *Journal of the Society*, and of their truth there can be no doubt. When we inform the reader that two thousand gentlemen, including a large number of the nobility, sat down to a dinner, the tickets of which cost two guineas each, accompanied by some three hundred ladies, he can judge something of the enthusiasm and character of the persons engaged in agricultural improvements in England.

In ordinary seasons there will be no considerable demand in Great Britain for our surplus bread-stuffs. If we go to France, Spain, Belgium, Germany and the North of Europe, we shall find no where a deficiency in the crop, a large surplus in many wheat growing regions, and every where the science of agriculture studied with unprecedented zeal and success.

Let us now see what is going on in our own country. Every body knows that there are large tracts of poor, sterile, sandy lands in Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina. A few scientific gentlemen have analyzed this silicious soil, and the *marl* and swamp *muck* deposited in different places more or less throughout all this territory, and found the *three* if put together would contain all the essential elements of good wheat. Science led the way, and now for the result. *The Queen Ann's Telescope* (Eastern Shore, Maryland,) says, “our respected fellow-townsmen, *William Carmichael, Esq.*, has raised this season upon twenty acres of land, one thousand and twenty-six bushels of *Mediterranean* wheat, being a fraction less than fifty-one and a half bushels per acre.” Many others have done nearly as well. We learn from the *Syracuse Journal* in this State, that some of the wheat growers in old Onondaga, have harvested over fifty bushels to the acre this season from actual measurement. A gentleman in Kentucky has a field of one hundred acres of corn which it is thought will produce over one hundred bushels per acre. The season is now so far advanced that we hazard nothing in saying that the surplus is such that prices must rule very low.

Exchange paper.

SCIENCE AND ART—SOAP MANUFACTURE AND CIVILIZATION.

The quantity of soap consumed in any country, says Professor Liebig, forms a tolerably safe criterion, or index, by which we may judge of the opulence and civilization of its inhabitants. Take, for instance, two nations having an equal population: the more wealthy and civilized will

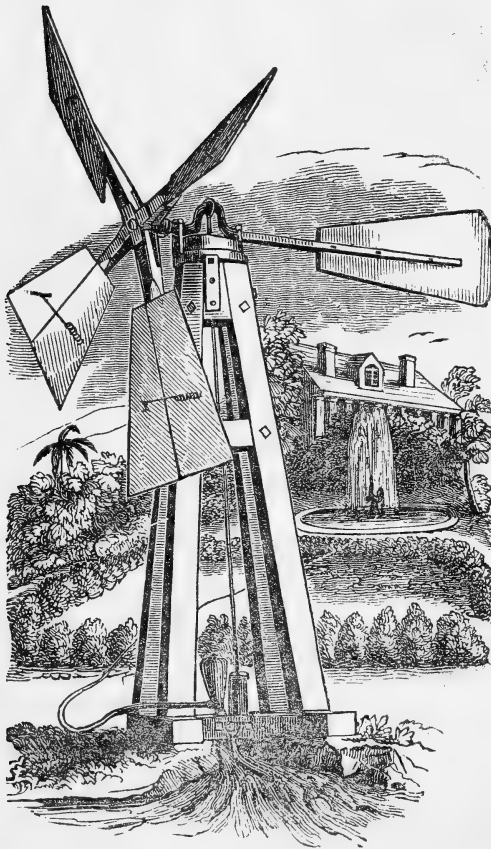
consume the greater quantity of soap. This consumption neither depends on fashion nor on the gratification of any sensual appetite, but on the agreeable sensation which is the result of cleanliness, and which is so essential to health and comfort.

During the middle ages the rich, who were comparatively few in number, made great display in what were then considered the luxuries of the table, in gold and silver, in arms and armor, in horses, in costly apparel; but the idea of cleanliness had not yet reached them. They were but partially acquainted with the use of linen, and soap was almost a stranger to them; whereas, at the present day, he must be poor indeed who dispenses with the article of soap.

The immense capital employed in this branch of industry in the United States, would astonish any person who should make the calculation. It probably is not inferior in amount to that of the whole trade in coffee. Of the article of soda, France alone imports from Spain six millions of dollars worth annually, which is nearly all consumed by the soap boilers of a single city (Marseilles).

In the time of Napoleon, the chemist Le Blanc discovered the process of obtaining soda from the decomposition of common salt by sulphuric acid; this, with the art of separating the stearine or solid part of animal fat from the olein or liquid portion, has formed a new era in this important manufacture.—*Brooklyn Eagle*.

WIND MILL.



In the lower part of Virginia, especially where water is very scarce, we have often thought that power might be advantageously obtained by means of wind mills. It is, however, a subject upon which we are profoundly ignorant, and the

only reason we have for inclining to them, is that they seem to stand high in the favor of our Northern friends, if we are to judge from the quantity that meets the eye scattered over their country in every direction.

We have had many inquiries propounded to us upon the subject, which we were unable to answer; but we shall be very happy if the handsome cut at the head of this article should have the effect of calling out some of our correspondents. Let us hear something of the history of the wind mill; its advantages and disadvantages, the best principle of construction, &c. &c.

For the Southern Planter.

OVERSEERS.

Mr. Editor,—In perusing the May number of the Planter I noticed a piece headed "Virginia Overseers," and signed by "A Farmer." As the author of that piece remarked, the planters of Virginia cannot well dispense with overseers now, and as he seems to think it best for employers to engage their overseers in September or October, instead of June or July, I will give my advice upon the subject. If a man has had an overseer more than one year he is capable of judging whether he is qualified to attend to his business, and it would be to the advantage of both to know whether they would agree for the next year by the 15th of June; for the overseer then knows what to do, for if they agree to live together, the overseer would be a fool to neglect his business, knowing that his employer has the power to turn him off at any time he thinks proper. If he is such a man as an employer should have, instead of neglecting his wheat, oat crop, &c., as our friend says, he will watch every opportunity to advance the next crop. If they do not agree to live together, the overseer has time to look about and get business or make some other arrangements and settle up his business, (for he might get business out of the neighborhood,) while on the other hand he would only have about one month to settle up in, which perhaps would not be time enough to settle more than half his business. If he takes a part of the crop, he then has his part to sell, and perhaps will meet with difficulty in selling and settling for it, and will have to ride to court very often, and be at expense and trouble. Our friend wants the overseer to recollect that he gets more than his wages, for, in addition, he gets his finding. Sometimes that is the case, but whenever it is so the wages are diminished in proportion as he is found. I would like for our friend to remember that an overseer not only sacrifices one year, but sometimes many years; for they are exposed to snow, rain, and all kinds of bad weather, while the employer is sitting in the house by the fire. In May and June he has to be planting tobacco when the ground is wet, with wet feet, and by the time he is thirty-five, he seems to be about fifty or sixty years old. He has to lie down late and

rise early, and yet you seem to be unwilling to give him a fair chance. I cannot see what Mr. Farmer wants, unless it is to put the overseer off until the last hour of the day, and then he will have him in his power, and say you may take this, or that, or let it alone. Quite independent then.

Now, Mr. Editor, this is a pretty time of the day for a man with a wife and five or six children to have only one month to look out a home and settle up his business in, which is entirely too short a time in which to do it effectually.

I am an overseer and if you want my name you can get it. D. D.

Appomattox County, Va., June, 1845.

D. D. will perceive that we have taken the liberty of striking from his communication some expressions that seemed to us to have been engendered in a heat that the article of "A Farmer," was neither designed nor calculated to excite; they added nothing either to the beauty of the composition, or the soundness of the argument. There is no class of men whose interest is assailed in our columns, that shall not be heard in their own behalf; all we ask, is that degree of moderation and courtesy that is owing from one gentleman to another, as well as the respect that is due to the dignity of our paper.

The time of overseers engagements is a subject much canvassed in the country, and we have heard a great deal about it. In our comments upon the article of "A Farmer," we expressed no opinion upon that point, and surely we are the last to advocate a system which might, as D. D. seems to think, lead to so much injustice and oppression.

Overseers are like all other classes; individually there are good and bad men amongst them, and we do not believe they are better or worse than the rest of mankind. Many of them are faithful, honest, laborious men, who perhaps are poorly paid for their services, but as a class we think they are much too ignorant and superstitious to have entrusted to their charge the responsibility that frequently devolves upon them. To discharge their functions in the management of a large estate, requires a degree of intelligence and information that cannot be purchased for a common overseer's wages, and what we would urge upon our farmers, is, that if they will not discharge these functions themselves, (which is much the best plan,) to offer such a salary as the qualities they require in a superintendent, will command in any other kind of business.

For the Southern Planter.

AMHERST AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting of sundry citizens of the county of Amherst, at the Court House, on Saturday, the 7th of June, 1845, for the purpose of forming an Agricultural Society, Col. William Dillard was called to the chair, and Za. Drummond appointed Secretary.

A Constitution was then presented by Philip St. George Ambler, which, upon slight amendment, was adopted, and which is in the following words and figures, to wit:

CONSTITUTION.

Sec. 1. The name of this Society shall be the Amherst Auxiliary Agricultural Society; the object of which is to aid the Virginia State Agricultural Society in raising the sum of ten thousand dollars by private subscriptions and donations, over and above the subscription for membership, and in inducing the Legislature of Virginia at its next session to appropriate other ten thousand dollars; and thus to create a capital of twenty thousand dollars, the annual interest of which is to be disbursed in premiums at cattle shows and fairs.

Sec. 2. This Society shall consist of such citizens of the county as shall signify their wish to become members, and shall pay to the Treasurer not less than one dollar, and annually thereafter also one dollar.

Sec. 3. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, four Vice Presidents, (one from each election precinct,) a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Sec. 4. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the proceedings of the Society. The Corresponding Secretary shall carry on a correspondence with the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, with other Agricultural Societies, and with individuals.—The Treasurer shall receive and keep the funds of the Society until its next meeting, when he shall produce a statement of his accounts, and if the amount in his hands shall be deemed by the Society sufficiently large, he shall be instructed to transmit the same to Richard B. Haxall, Treasurer of the Virginia State Agricultural Society; together with a list of the names of each member of this Society, and the amount by him subscribed; requesting the said R. B. Haxall to acknowledge the reception of the same, which acknowledgment shall be produced to the Amherst Auxiliary Agricultural Society at its meeting in the month of November next.

Sec. 5. The President of this Society shall appoint a committee of five persons, whose duty it shall be to draft a memorial to be presented to the next Legislature of Virginia, asking the appropriation of ten thousand dollars; and to so-

licit signatures to said memorial, and to inform this Society at each of its meetings what progress they make.

Sec. 6. This Society shall hold meetings at Amherst Court House, on Saturday the 2d day of August, Saturday the 1st day of November, on Saturday the 27th day of December, 1845, and at such other times thereafter as they may designate.

Sec. 7. Three officers and five members shall constitute a quorum for business.

On motion seconded, a committee of nine persons were named by the Chair, to wit: Edmund Penn, S. M. Garland, William C. Christian, H. L. Davies, Philip St. George Ambler, Joseph R. Carter, William Hix, Champe Carter, and Edwin S. Rucker, whose duty it should be to nominate officers for the Society; which committee, after consultation, brought forward the following list:—For President, Col. William Dillard; for First Vice President, Philip St. George Ambler; for Second Vice President, Maj. A. Taliaferro; for Third Vice President, Henry Loving; for Fourth Vice President, William Kent; for Recording Secretary, H. L. Brown; for Corresponding Secretary, Za. Drummond, and for Treasurer, Ro. Tinsley; which several nominations, upon motion, were adopted.

The President took his seat, and proceeded, under the requisition of the 5th section of the Constitution, to appoint the five gentlemen whose names follow, as the committee to prepare the memorial mentioned, viz: S. M. Garland, Wm. C. Christian, Robert Tinsley, P. St. George Ambler, and Dr. H. L. Davies.

Ordered, That the Editor of the Southern Planter, and the Editors of the Lynchburg Virginian and Republican be requested to publish these proceedings in their respective papers.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

WM. DILLARD, *Chairman.*

Za. DRUMMOND, *Secretary.*

THE PLANTER—POSTAGE.

We are fully aware of the drawback on our subscription list caused by the ridiculous and onerous imposition of postage to which we were subjected under the old law. Now, that we are freed from this grievance and put upon a fair footing with our cotemporaries, we have thought it not inopportune to send each of our present subscribers a prospectus, with a request that he would obtain us such additional names as he can procure in his neighborhood. We have had too many proofs of the kindness and good will of our friends to fear that this draft upon their good nature will be dishonored. Our list has already been increased to an amount that

puts the paper upon the safest footing and secures us a small reward for our labor, but over and above the additional profit, we feel some pride in having it said that the State of Virginia affords to her agricultural papers as fair a support as her sister States. We are every day receiving the most convincing proof that there are thousands who only want to know the work to subscribe to it.

Under the new postage law each number of the Planter is declared to be a newspaper, and as such, is subjected to the following postage: Within thirty miles of the city of Richmond it goes free of charge. Within one hundred miles, or within the State of Virginia, each number is taxed with one cent; over one hundred miles out of the State, it pays one and a half cents.

From the American Farmer.

SPIRITS OF TURPENTINE USED IN MAKING CANDLES.

Mr. Editor,—Taking the hint from a late number of the Ploughman, my "better half" tried the experiment of dipping her candle wicks in spirits of turpentine before making the candles, and found it quite an improvement. I mentioned this fact that it might be tried by others to their advantage, which I have no hesitancy in affirming will be found to be the case. The saving as I reckon it, is forty or fifty per cent.; besides we find the candles emit a clearer, brighter light.

Remember the wicks are to be made about half the usual size, dipped in spirits of turpentine and dried in the sun. Try it, ye that count it worth your while to save the pennies, and let us hear from you if it be not so.

Respectfully, B. F. WILBER.

Butlers Vala, Feb. 15, 1845.

THE FARMERS' LIBRARY.

In our office may be found a prospectus and subscription list, to which we would most gladly append the name of every subscriber we have. Under the title of the "Farmers' Library," that veteran Editor, John S. Skinner, proposes to republish in a cheap form, with notes and annotations that we will guarantee will be worth as much as the text, the best standard works on agriculture that are published in Europe, frequently at a cost too great for the means of the ordinary American farmer.

For five dollars a year, he also proposes to publish a monthly Journal of Agriculture, which

will contain six hundred pages royal octavo, and will no doubt be worthy the well earned reputation of the editor and publishers.

✍ Subscriptions received at the office of the Planter, and forwarded free of charge.

BROOM CORN.

The seed is excellent to fatten sheep. Albert Hibbard, of North Hadley, tells us he makes use of the seed of his broom corn to fatten sheep; that they are very fond of it, and will fatten better on this than on Indian corn. Broom corn is raised in great quantities in the river towns, where the brooms are made up and distributed to all parts of the country. We have often raised the corn for the sake of the brush, but we have never made much account of the seed, though we think it has seldom been converted to meal for hogs. Mr. Hibbard thinks the broom corn seed more valuable for sheep, than oats, or any grain, pound for pound.—*Boston Ploughman.*

CONTENTS OF NO. VII.

- Subsoil Ploughing*—Editorial remarks on, p. 145.
Snake Bite—To cure, p. 146.
Cockle—To get rid of, p. 146.
Okra—Cultivation of, recommended, p. 147.
Manure—Liebig's patent, p. 147.
Sheep—Mr. Nolting's, p. 147.
Chickens—Cause of gapes, p. 148.
Food—How to preserve animal food, p. 148.
Beer Powders—Good for nothing, p. 148.
Mowing—Directions for using the scythe, p. 148.
Agricultural Schools—Mr. Schermerhorn's system, p. 149.
Stumps—An extractor, p. 152.
Wool—Statistics of American wool, p. 152.
Agricultural Club—Another, p. 153.
Horses—Proper conformation of, p. 153.
Moth—A lure for, p. 154.
Wagons—A new lock for, p. 154.
Horses—Farcy cured by homœopathic treatment, p. 154.
Virginia—Yankee emigration to, p. 155.
Manufactures—Ought to be more general at the South, p. 155.
Horses—Cut and description of the Suffolk Punch, p. 157.
Wood—An incombustible coating for, p. 158.
Cows—To prevent abortion, p. 158.
The Tuckahoe—Again, p. 158.
Asparagus—The Arabian method of cultivation, p. 159.
Cockle—A screen for, p. 159.
Virginia—A foreigner's opinion of, p. 159.
Lightning Rods—To put up, p. 161.
Razors—Directions for honing, p. 162.
Cows—Food for, p. 162.
Agricultural Papers—Their proper scope and value, p. 162.
Root—A curious one, p. 163.
Wheat—Great production of, p. 164.
Soap—Its connexion with civilization, p. 164.
Wind Mill—Inquiries for, p. 165.
Overseer—An answer to "A Farmer," p. 166.
Agricultural Society—Formed in Amherst, p. 167.
Postage and the Planter—p. 167.

SANDS'S SARSAPARILLA,

FOR THE REMOVAL AND PERMANENT CURE OF ALL DISEASES ARISING FROM AN IMPURE STATE OF THE BLOOD,
OR HABIT OF THE SYSTEM.

THIS medicine is constantly performing almost incredible cures of diseases arising from impurities of the blood and general system. It has arrested and cured numerous cases of scrofulous affections, diseases of the skin, rheumatic gout, diseased liver, painful enlargement of the knee, elbow and wrist joints, chronic rheumatism, sore throat, chronic constitutional disorders, and various other disorders arising from impure secretions. In this preparation are strongly concentrated all the valuable medicinal properties of Sarsaparilla, on which its activity depends, compounded with other remedial agents, selected from the vegetable kingdom, the whole strength of which is extracted on an entirely new principle, which has cost many years of labor and much expense. The great object desired is now triumphantly accomplished, in the production of a remedy possessing a controlling power over supposed incurable diseases, heretofore unknown in the history of medicine.

The testimony of those who have been cured by its use, with their residence, has been published from time to time, and were it desirable a mass of the most overwhelming testimony could be brought forward, proving most conclusively its inestimable value, as an active and curative medicine in the above diseases. The afflicted, or those who may have given up in despair, and all who are interested, are invited to make a trial of this valuable medicine, or to call on those who have come forward and borne public testimony of its priceless value to them, and satisfy themselves individually of its power in arresting and curing disease, and of what it has performed for others.

The following interesting case is presented, and the reader invited to its careful perusal. Comment on such evidence is unnecessary.

NEW YORK, July, 25, 1844.

Messrs. Sands:—Gents—I consider it but an act of justice to you to state the following facts in reference to the great benefit I have received in the cure of an obstinate CANCEROUS ULCER on my breast.

I was attended eighteen months by a regular and skilful physician, assisted by the advice and counsel of one of our most able and experienced surgeons, without the least benefit whatever. All the various methods of treating cancer were resorted to; for five weeks in succession my breast was burned with caustic three times a day, and for six it was daily syringed with a weak solution of nitric acid, and the cavity or internal ulcer was so large that it held over an ounce of the solution. The Doctor probed the ulcer and examined the bone, and said the disease was advancing rapidly to the lungs, and if I did not get speedy relief by medicine or an operation, the result would be fatal. I was advised to have the breast laid open and the bones examined, but finding no relief from what had been done, and feeling I was rapidly getting worse, I almost despaired of recovery, considered my case nearly hopeless.

Seeing various testimonials and certificates of cure by the use of "SANDS' SARSAPARILLA," in cases similar to my own, I concluded to try a few bottles, several of which were used, but from the long, deep seated character of my disease, produced no very decided change; considering this as the only probable cure for my case, I persevered, until the disease was entirely cured. It is now over eleven months since the cure was completed; there is not the slightest appearance of a return, and I therefore pronounce myself WELL, and the cure entirely effected by "SANDS' SARSAPARILLA," as I took no other medicine of any kind during the time I was using it, nor have I taken any since. Please excuse this long deferred acknowledgment, which I think it my duty to make. Your valuable Sarsaparilla cured me, with the blessing of Divine Providence, when nothing else could, and I feel myself under lasting obligations to you. I can say

many things I cannot write, and I do most respectfully invite ladies afflicted as I have been, to call upon me and I will satisfy them fully of the truth as stated above, and many other things in reference to the case.

NANCY J. MILLER, 218 Sullivan st.

The following letter from one of the most eminent Physicians in the city of Baltimore, is presented with a view of showing the opinions of Physicians generally in relation to this valuable medicine,—many others of a similar tenor have been received from several of the most distinguished physicians throughout our country.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 4th, 1843.

A. B. & D. Sands.—Gentlemen:—I have used your Extract of Sarsaparilla since its introduction into this city. It gives me pleasure to state, I have found it to answer my most sanguine expectations. I believe it to be the best preparation of that valuable article now in use. With much respect, yours,

JOHN WHITRIDGE, M. D., 46 Gay Street.

For further particulars and conclusive evidence of its superior value and efficacy, see pamphlets, which may be obtained of agents gratis.

Prepared and sold Wholesale and Retail by

A. B. & D. SANDS, Druggists and Chemists,
79 Fulton st. New York.

Authorized agents for the Proprietors, in Richmond A. Duval & Co., in Petersburg Rosser and Anderson, in Norfolk M. A. Santos, in Lynchburg D. R. Lyman, in Fredericksburg James Cook, in Raleigh, N. C., Williams & Haywood.

Sold also by Druggists generally throughout the United States. Price \$1 per bottle—six bottles for \$5.

The public are respectfully requested to remember that it is Sands' Sarsaparilla, that has and is constantly achieving such remarkable cures of the most difficult class of diseases to which the human frame is subject, and ask for Sands' Sarsaparilla and take no other. my 1 6t

REAPING MACHINES.

THE subscriber, as the authorized agent of Cyrus McCormick, is prepared to receive orders for his celebrated Reaping Machine, for the next harvest.—The character and value of this implement are so well established, that it is unnecessary to say any thing more in its favor. Many gentlemen were disappointed in getting the Machine last year in consequence of delaying their orders too long. The demand for them is increasing so rapidly, that it will be impossible to fill any but the earlier orders that will be given. Apply immediately to

C. T. BOTTS.

JAMES RIVER LAND.

THE subscriber is authorized to sell, upon very accommodating terms, a valuable plantation of 474 acres on James River, adjoining the Goochland Court House tract.

C. T. BOTTS.

DRINKER & MORRIS,

BOOKSELLERS, PUBLISHERS, STATIONERS AND BOOK-BINDERS,

No. 22, Main Street, Richmond, Va.

Have constantly on hand a general assortment of Standard and Miscellaneous Books; Blank Books of every description; School and Classical Books, and Stationery of every variety.

Farming and Agricultural Books, by the most approved authors, and of the latest editions.

J. W. RANDOLPH & CO.

BOOK-SELLERS, BOOK-BINDERS, STATIONERS,
And dealers in

Music, Musical Instruments and Fancy Goods,
No. 121, MAIN ST., RICHMOND, VA.

Orders from the country will be supplied at moderate prices and with despatch.

THOMAS & CHARLES ELLIS,
IMPORTERS OF DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, CUTLERY AND GUNS,
E Street, Opposite the Exchange Bank.

RICHARD HILL, Jr.
GENERAL AGENT AND COLLECTOR,

OFFICE No. 183, MAIN STREET, CORNER BELOW THE BANKS.

HORSE POWER AND THRESHING MACHINE.

THE Subscriber is manufacturing, for \$120, what he believes to be the best Horse Power and Threshing Machine now in use. He is emboldened to say so, from the fact, that where it was used last year it was universally approved. The Horse Power, particularly, is unrivalled. From two to four horses is all the power that is ever required, and for compactness, ease of draft and durability, it cannot be excelled.

This Machine is calculated to get out *cleanly* from 120 to 150 bushels per day; but for \$150 a larger drum will be furnished, that with four horses will thresh 250 bushels.

Orders are pouring in, and those desiring these Machines will please inform me at once, that I may not be hurried in getting them up; and therefore may have a better opportunity of turning out a good article.

See Mr. Roane's opinion of this Machine as expressed in the March No. of the Southern Planter, at p. 65, and Dr. Bryant's in the May No. at p. 100.

N. B.—In consequence of the late extraordinary rise in the price of iron, the subscriber has been compelled to raise the price of these Machines to \$130

C. T. BOTTS.

April 28, 1845.

Bommer's Method at Reduced Prices.

THE cheapness and expedition with which manure may be manufactured by the Bommer process, and the fact that it can be produced to any extent desired, not only from all vegetable matter, whether green or dry, but also from the earth itself. It is evident that no economical cultivator of the soil can consistently remain destitute of this valuable means of restoring fertility to exhausted lands, of making good land better, and of augmenting crops of all descriptions. To facilitate the speedy and general introduction of this important improvement, it is hereafter to be sold to each individual at the low price of five dollars, with the right to use it on his own premises, to any extent desired. As soon as practicable, it is intended to employ a competent Travelling Agent in each County, whose duty it shall be, not only to promote sales, but also to furnish all necessary illustrations of its practical utility.

Persons who may wish to avail themselves of this method immediately, are hereby informed, that by forwarding their address to the subscriber, with five dollars enclosed, that they shall instantly have the method forwarded to them without charge of postage. Any intelligent and responsible person who would wish to be employed as Travelling Agent in any county in the States of Virginia or Delaware, will please address me on the subject, with suitable testimonials of character and qualifications, all of which must be post paid. Suitable persons will find the employment both useful and lucrative.

ELI BARNETT, General Agent.

Westville, New Haven Co., Connecticut, April 1, 1845.

Hussey's Reaping Machine.

FARMERS who intend procuring this machine to cut their next harvest, will please send their orders soon to the subscriber in Baltimore. The uncertainty felt by farmers for a year or two past, as to what machine they had better procure, appears from present indications, to be considerably removed, as the orders already received are more than double the number of any previous year, up to the middle of February. To say nothing of what this machine will do in good standing grain, it is warranted to cut grain in such bad condition, as no other reaping machine ever made can cut at all.

Baltimore, February 18, 1845.

OBED HUSSEY.

PERUVIAN GUANO.

THE subscribers are prepared to furnish to order, Guano of the cargo imported by Saml. K. George, Esq. Agent of the Peruvian Guano Company, and warranted genuine, at three cents per lb. for one or more bags, less than a ton in weight, or \$2 50 per 100 lbs. for one or more tons.

This cargo is warranted to be pure and of the best quality, and is in the original bags (of about 130 lbs. each.) All orders, to insure attention, must be accompanied with the cash.

Richmond, Feb. 5, 1845.

DUNLOP, MONCURE & CO.

A Chance for Investment.

A GENTLEMAN, established in a very flourishing business in this City, capable of great extension, is willing to take either a sleeping or active partner, who can bring in an additional capital of \$20,000. This merchant, whose unblemished integrity and perfect knowledge of his business has secured the public confidence, will make such an exhibit as will satisfy the most cautious that the investment is certain of producing a fair and reasonable profit.